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(54) **VARIANT PHOSPHOENOLPYRUVATE CARBOXYLASE, GENE THEREOF, AND PROCESS FOR PRODUCING AMINO ACID**

EINE PHOSPHOENOLPYRUVAT-CARBOXYLASEVARIANTE, IHR GEN UND VERFAHREN ZUR HERSTELLUNG VON AMINOSÄUREN

ALLELE DE PHOSPHENOLPYRUVATE CARBOXYLASE, GENE DE CET ALLELE ET PROCEDE DE PRODUCTION DE L'ACIDE AMINE

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"Phosphoenolpyruvate carboxylase of *Escherichia coli*: the role of Lysyl residues in the catalytic and regulatory functions"
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- **J. BIOCHEM.**, Vol. 95, No. 4, (1984), FUJITA NUBUUKI et al., "The Primary structure of phosphoenolpyruvate carboxylase of *Escherichia coli* Nucleotide Sequence of the *ppe* gene and deduced amino acid Sequence", p. 909-916.

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- J. BIOL. CHEM., Vol. 265, No. 26, (1990),
SHERRYL MOWBRAY et al., "Mutations in the
Aspartate Receptor of Escherichia coli Which
Affect Aspartate Binding", p. 15638-15643.

Description

TECHNICAL FIELD

[0001] The present invention relates to a mutant phosphoenolpyruvate carboxylase, a gene coding for it, and a production method of an amino acid, and in particular relates to a gene having mutation to desensitize feedback inhibition by aspartic acid, and utilization thereof.

BACKGROUND ART

[0002] Phosphoenolpyruvate carboxylase is an enzyme which is found in almost all bacteria and all plants. The role of this enzyme resides in biosynthesis of aspartic acid and glutamic acid, and supply of C₄ dicarboxylic acid to the citric acid cycle for maintaining its turnover. However, in the fermentative production of an amino acid using a microorganism, there have been few reports on effects of this enzyme has not been made clear (Atsushi Yokota and Isamu Shio, *Agric. Biol. Chem.*, 52, 455-463 (1988), Josef Cremer et al., *Appl. Environ. Microbiol.*, 57, 1746-1752 (1991), Petra, G. Peters-Weintisch, *FEMS Microbiol. Letters*, 112, 269-274 (1993)).

[0003] By the way, the amino acid is a compound which universally exists in cells as components of proteins, however, for the sake of economic energy metabolism and substance metabolism, its production is strictly controlled. This control is principally feedback control, in which the final product of a metabolic pathway inhibits the activity of an enzyme which catalyzes the earlier step of the pathway. Phosphoenolpyruvate carboxylase also undergoes various regulations in expression of its activity.

[0004] For example, in the case of phosphoenolpyruvate carboxylase of microorganisms belonging to the genus *Corynebacterium* or the genus *Escherichia*, the activity is inhibited by aspartic acid. Therefore, the aforementioned amino acid biosynthesis, in which phosphoenolpyruvate carboxylase participates, is also inhibited by aspartic acid.

[0005] In the prior art, various techniques have been developed for efficient production in amino acid fermentation, and fermentative production has been carried out for leucine, isoleucine, tryptophan, phenylalanine and the like by using mutant strains converted to be insensitive to feedback control. However, there has been known neither mutant phosphoenolpyruvate carboxylase converted to be insensitive to inhibition by aspartic acid, nor attempt to utilize it for fermentative production of amino acids of the aspartic acid family and the glutamic acid family.

[0006] On the other hand, ppc gene, which is a gene coding for phosphoenolpyruvate carboxylase of *Escherichia coli*, has been already cloned, and also determined for its nucleotide sequence (Fujita, N., Miwa, T., Ishijima, S., Izui, K. and Katsuki, H., *J. Biochem.*, 95, 909-916 (1984)).

[0007] Morikawa, M. et al. (1971) *Biochem. Biophys. Res. Com.*, vol. 45, no. 3, pages 689 to 694 discloses the use of a PEP-minus strain to obtain PEP revertants.

[0008] Naide, A. et al. (1979) *J. Biochem.*, vol. 85, no. 2, pages 423 to 432 discloses PEP mutants that have been inactivated by a chemical reagent and which show no sensitivity to the allosteric inhibitor, L-aspartate.

[0009] Kameshita, I. et al. (1978), *J. Biochem.*, vol. 84, no. 4, pages 795 to 803 discloses chemically modified PEP mutants that are desensitized against L-aspartate.

[0010] An object of the present invention is to provide a mutant phosphoenolpyruvate carboxylase with substantially desensitized feedback inhibition by aspartic acid, a gene coding for it, and a utilization method thereof.

DISCLOSURE OF THE INVENTION

[0011] As a result of diligent investigation in order to achieve the aforementioned object, the present inventors have found that the inhibition by aspartic acid is substantially desensitized by replacing an amino acid at a specified site of phosphoenolpyruvate carboxylase of *Escherichia coli* with another amino acid, succeeded in obtaining a gene coding for such a mutant enzyme, and arrived at completion of the present invention.

[0012] Namely, the present invention lies in a mutant phosphoenolpyruvate carboxylase, which originates from a microorganism belonging to the genus *Escherichia* and a mutant phosphoenolpyruvate carboxylase originating from a microorganism belonging to the genus *Escherichia* and being desensitized in its feedback inhibition by aspartic acid, wherein said mutant phosphoenolpyruvate carboxylase is resistant to a compound selected from 3-bromopyruvate, aspartic acid- β -hydrazide and DL-threo- β -hydroxyaspartic acid.

[0013] The present invention further provides microorganisms belonging to the genus *Escherichia* or coryneform bacteria harboring the DNA fragment, and a method of producing an amino acid wherein any of these microorganisms is cultivated in a preferable medium, and the amino acid selected from L-lysine, L-threonine, L-methionine, L-isoleucine, L-glutamic acid, L-arginine and L-proline is separated from the medium.

[0014] Incidentally, in this specification, the DNA sequence coding for the mutant phosphoenolpyruvate carboxylase, or a DNA sequence containing a promoter in addition thereto is occasionally merely referred to as "DNA sequence of

the present invention", "mutant gene" or "phosphoenolpyruvate carboxylase gene."

[0015] The present invention will be explained in detail hereinafter.

<1> Mutant phosphoenolpyruvate carboxylase

[0016] The mutant phosphoenolpyruvate carboxylase of the present invention (hereinafter simply referred to as "mutant enzyme") lies in the phosphoenolpyruvate carboxylase of the microorganism belonging to the genus Escherichia, which has mutation to desensitize the feedback inhibition by aspartic acid.

[0017] Such mutation may be any one provided that the aforementioned feedback inhibition is substantially desensitized without losing the enzyme activity of the phosphoenolpyruvate carboxylase.

[0018] More concretely, there may be exemplified, as counted from the N-terminus of the phosphoenolpyruvate carboxylase:

- (1) mutation to replace 625th glutamic acid with lysine;
- (2) mutation to replace 222th arginine with histidine and 223th glutamic acid with lysine, respectively;
- (3) mutation to replace 288th serine with phenylalanine, 289th glutamic acid with lysine, 551th methionine with isoleucine and 804th glutamic acid with lysine, respectively;
- (4) mutation to replace 867th alanine with threonine;
- (5) mutation to replace 438th arginine with cysteine; and
- (6) mutation to replace 620th lysine with serine.

[0019] Incidentally, as the phosphoenolpyruvate carboxylase of the microorganism belonging to the genus Escherichia, an amino acid sequence, which is deduced from a phosphoenolpyruvate carboxylase gene of Escherichia coli (Fujita, N., Miwa, T., Ishijima, S., Izui, K. and Katsuki, H., J. Biochem., 95, 909-916 (1984)), is shown in SEQ ID NO:2 in the Sequence listing. In addition, an entire nucleotide sequence of a plasmid pT2, which contains the phosphoenolpyruvate carboxylase gene of Escherichia coli, is shown in SEQ ID NO:1 together with the amino acid sequence.

[0020] The aforementioned mutant enzymes are encoded by DNA sequences of the present invention described below, which are produced by expressing the DNA sequences in Escherichia coli and the like.

<2> DNA sequence of the present invention and microorganisms harboring the same

[0021] The DNA sequence of the present invention is DNA sequences coding for the aforementioned mutant enzymes, and has mutation to desensitize feedback inhibition of phosphoenolpyruvate carboxylase by aspartic acid in coding regions in DNA fragments coding for phosphoenolpyruvate carboxylase of the microorganism belonging to the genus Escherichia.

[0022] Concretely, there may be exemplified a DNA Sequence coding for the phosphoenolpyruvate carboxylase having the mutation of any one of the aforementioned (1) to (6), for example, with respect to the nucleotide sequence of SEQ ID NO:1, there may be exemplified a DNA sequence having any one of:

- i) mutation to convert GAA of base Nos. 2109-2111 into AAA or AAG;
- ii) mutation to convert CGC of base Nos. 900-902 into CAT or CAC, and GAA of 903-905 into AAA or AAG, respectively;
- iii) mutation to convert TCT of base Nos. 1098-1100 into TTT or TTC, GAA of 1101-1103 into AAA or AAG, ATG of 1887-1889 into ATT, ATC or ATA, and GAA of 2646-2648 into AAA or AAG, respectively;
- iv) mutation to convert GCG of 2835-2837 into any one of ACT, ACC, ACA and ACG; and
- v) mutation to convert CGT of 1548-1550 into TGT or TGC; and
- vi) mutation to convert AAA of 2094-2096 into TCT, TCC, TCA or TCG.

[0023] Such a mutant gene is obtained such that a recombinant DNA, which is obtained by ligating a phosphoenolpyruvate carboxylase gene as a wild type enzyme gene or having another mutation with a vector DNA adaptable to a host, is subjected to a mutation treatment, to perform screening from transformants by the recombinant DNA. Alternatively, it is also acceptable that a microorganism which produces a wild type enzyme is subjected to a mutation treatment, a mutant strain which produces a mutant enzyme is created, and then a mutant gene is screened from the mutant strain. For the mutation treatment of the recombinant DNA, hydroxylamine and the like may be used. Further, when an microorganism itself is subjected to a mutation treatment, a drug or a method usually used for artificial mutation may be used.

[0024] Further, in accordance with methods such as the Overlapping Extension method (Ho, S. N., Hunt, H. D., Horton, R. M., Pullen, J. K. and Pease, L. R., Gene, 77, 51-59 (1989)), the site specific mutation method (Kramer, W.

and Frits, H. J., Meth. in Enzymol., 154, 350 (1987); Kunkel, T. A. et al., Meth. in Enzymol., 154, 367 (1987)) and the like, the aforementioned mutant gene can be also obtained by introducing mutation such as amino acid replacement, insertion, deletion and the like into a phosphoenolpyruvate carboxylase gene as a wild type enzyme gene or having another mutation. These methods are based on a principle that a non-mutated gene DNA is used as a template, and a synthetic DNA containing a mismatch at a mutation point is used as one of primers so as to synthesize complementary strands of the aforementioned gene DNA, thereby mutation is introduced. By using these methods, it is possible to cause intended mutation at an aimed site.

[0025] Alternatively, a sequence, which has restriction enzyme cleavage ends at both termini and includes both sides of a mutation point, is synthesized, and exchanged for a corresponding portion of a non-mutated gene, thereby mutation can be introduced (cassette mutation method).

[0026] The phosphoenolpyruvate carboxylase gene, which is the wild type enzyme gene or has another mutation to be used for introduction of mutation, may be any one provided that it is a gene coding for the phosphoenolpyruvate carboxylase of the microorganism belonging to the genus Escherichia, which is preferably determined for its base sequence and cloned. When it has not been cloned, a DNA fragment containing the gene can be amplified and isolated by using the PCR method and the like, followed by using a suitable vector to achieve cloning.

[0027] As the gene as described above, for example, there may be exemplified a gene of Escherichia coli having been cloned and determined for its base sequence (Fujita, N., Miwa, T., Ishijima, S., Izui, K. and Katsuki, H., J. Biochem., 95, 909-916 (1984)). The sequence in the coding region of this gene is as shown in SEQ ID NO: 1 (base Nos. 237-2888).

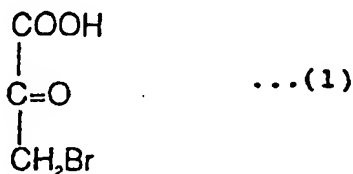
[0028] Screening of a host harboring the mutant gene can be performed by using an analog compound of aspartic acid. The analog compound preferably has the following properties. Namely, it exhibits a growth inhibitory action against a microorganism belonging to the genus Escherichia which produces a wild type phosphoenolpyruvate carboxylase, the aforementioned growth inhibitory action is recovered by existence of L-glutamic acid or L-aspartic acid, and it inhibits wild type phosphoenolpyruvate carboxylase activity.

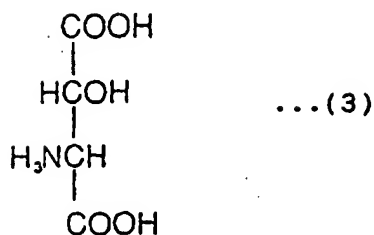
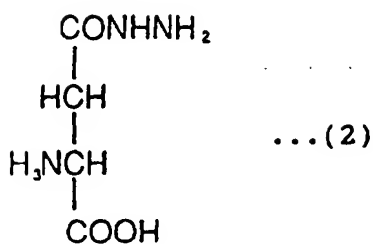
[0029] If a mutant strain being resistant to the analog compound mentioned above is selected from microorganism belonging to the genus Escherichia, for example, Escherichia coli HB101 producing wild type phosphoenolpyruvate carboxylase using inhibition of growth of the microorganism as an index, it is much likely to obtain a host microorganism which produces phosphoenolpyruvate carboxylase with desensitized feedback inhibition by aspartic acid.

[0030] It is proposed, as a general structure of an inhibitor of phosphoenolpyruvate carboxylase, that a C4 dicarboxylic acid structure is essentially provided. From such a viewpoint, various compounds were subjected to screening by the present inventors. Escherichia coli HB101 was cultivated in an LB medium, and transferred to M9 media (containing 20 µg/ml of thiamine and 3 µg/ml of each of Leu and Pro) containing any one of DL-2-amino-4-phosphonobutyric acid, bromosuccinic acid, meso-2,3-dibromosuccinic acid, 2,2-difluorosuccinic acid, 3-bromopyruvic acid, α-ketobutyric acid, α-ketoadipinic acid DL-threo-β-hydroxyaspartic acid L-aspartic acid β-methyl ester α-methyl-DL-aspartic acid, 2,3-diaminosuccinic acid or aspartic acid-β-hydrazide, and absorbance of the medium was measured at 660 nm with the passage of time, thereby growth was monitored.

[0031] Further, when these compounds were present at their growth inhibitory concentrations, it was investigated whether or not the inhibition was recovered by addition of nucleic acids (each of uridine, adenosine: 10 mg/dl), glutamic acid or amino acids of the aspartic acid family (Asp: 0.025 %, each of Met, Thr, Lys: 0.1 %).

[0032] As a result, three compounds: 3-bromopyruvate (3BP) (1), aspartate-β-hydrazide (AHY) (2), and DL-threo-β-hydroxyaspartate (βHA) (3) were selected.





[0033] Growth inhibition of *Escherichia coli* by these analog compounds is shown in Figs. 1-3. Further, growth recovery of *Escherichia coli*, in the case of addition of the aforementioned inhibition recovering substances alone or as a mixture of 2 species or 3 species, is shown in Figs. 4-6. In addition, as a control, growth in the case of addition of the inhibition recovering substance in the absence of the inhibitory substance is shown in Fig. 7. Incidentally, in Figs. 4-7, additives 1, 2 and 3 indicate nucleic acids, glutamic acid or amino acids of the aspartic acid family, respectively.

[0034] Further, inhibition of activity by the analog compound on phosphoenolpyruvate carboxylase was investigated. Crude enzyme was prepared from an *Escherichia coli* HB101 strain in accordance with a method described in *The Journal of Biochemistry*, Vol. 67, No. 4 (1970), and enzyme activity was measured in accordance with a method described in *Eur. J. Biochem.*, 202, 797-803 (1991).

[0035] *Escherichia coli* HB101 cultivated in an LB medium was disrupted, and a suspension was centrifuged to obtain a supernatant which was used as a crude enzyme solution. Measurement of enzyme activity was performed by measuring decrease in absorbance at 340 nm while allowing acetyl-coenzyme A known to affect the activity to exist at a concentration of 0.1 mM in a measurement system containing 2 mM potassium phosphoenolpyruvate, 0.1 mM NADH, 0.1 M Tris-acetate (pH 8.5), 1.5 U malate dehydrogenase and crude enzyme. Results are shown in Fig. 8.

[0036] According to the results as above, it is apparent that the aforementioned three compounds inhibit growth of *Escherichia coli*, this inhibition cannot be recovered by nucleic acids alone, but the inhibition can be recovered by addition of glutamic acid or amino acids of the aspartic acid family. Therefore, these analog compounds were postulated to be selective inhibitors of phosphoenolpyruvate carboxylase. As shown in Examples described below, by using these compounds, the present invention has succeeded in selection of an *Escherichia coli* which produces the mutant phosphoenolpyruvate carboxylase.

[0037] When a transformant having an aimed mutant enzyme gene is screened by using the aforementioned compounds, and a recombinant DNA is recovered, then the mutant enzyme gene is obtained. Alternatively, in the case of a mutation treatment of an microorganism itself, when a mutant strain having an aimed mutant enzyme gene is screened by using the aforementioned compounds, a DNA fragment containing the aimed mutant enzyme gene is isolated from the strain, and it is ligated with a suitable vector, then the mutant enzyme gene is obtained.

[0038] In accordance with methods such as the Overlapping Extension method (Ho, S. N., Hunt, H. D., Horton, R. M., Pullen, J. K. and Pease, L. R., *Gene*, 77, 51-59 (1989)), the site specific mutation method (Kramer, W. and Frits, H. J., *Meth. in Enzymol.*, 154, 350 (1987); Kunkel, T. A. et al., *Meth. in Enzymol.*, 154, 367 (1987)) and the like, conversion of the codon can be also achieved by introducing mutation such as amino acid replacement, insertion, deletion and the like into a phosphoenolpyruvate carboxylase gene as a wild type enzyme gene or having another mutation. These methods are based on a principle that a non-mutated gene DNA is used as a template, and a synthetic DNA containing a mismatch at a mutation point is used as one of primers so as to synthesize complementary strands of the aforementioned gene DNA, thereby mutation is introduced. By using these methods, it is possible to cause intended

mutation at an aimed site.

[0039] Alternatively, a sequence, which has restriction enzyme cleavage ends at both termini and contains both sides of a mutation point, is synthesized, and exchanged for a corresponding portion of a non-mutated gene, thereby mutation can be introduced (cassette mutation method).

[0040] The DNA fragment coding for the phosphoenolpyruvate carboxylase with mutation introduced as described above is expressed by using a suitable host-vector system, thereby it is possible to produce a mutant enzyme. Alternatively, even by performing transformation by integrating the DNA fragment of the present invention into a host chromosomal DNA, an aimed mutant enzyme can be produced.

[0041] As the host, there may be exemplified microorganisms belonging to the genus Escherichia, for example, Escherichia coli, coryneform bacteria and the like. The coryneform bacteria include bacteria belonging to the genus Corynebacterium, bacteria belonging to the genus Brevibacterium having been hitherto classified into the genus Brevibacterium but being united as bacteria belonging to the genus Corynebacterium at present, and bacteria belonging to the genus Brevibacterium closely related to bacteria belonging to the genus Corynebacterium. Incidentally, hosts which are preferable for amino acid production will be described below.

[0042] On the other hand, as the vector DNA, a plasmid vector is preferable, and those capable of self-replication in a host cell are preferable. When the host is Escherichia coli, for example, pUC19, pUC18, pBR322, pHSG299, pHSG399, RSF1010 and the like are exemplified. Alternatively, a vector of phage DNA can be also utilized.

[0043] Further, when the host is the coryneform bacteria, vectors which can be used and hosts which harbor them are exemplified below. Incidentally, deposition numbers of international depositories are shown in parentheses.

pAJ655	<u>Escherichia coli</u> AJ11882 (FERM BP-136)
	<u>Corynebacterium glutamicum</u> SR8201 (ATCC 39135)
pAJ1844	<u>Escherichia coli</u> AJ11883 (FERM BP-137)
	<u>Corynebacterium glutamicum</u> SR8202 (ATCC 39136)
pAJ611	<u>Escherichia coli</u> AJ11884 (FERM BP-138)
pAJ3148	<u>Corynebacterium glutamicum</u> SR8203 (ATCC 39137)
pAJ440	<u>Bacillus subtilis</u> AJ11901 (FERM BP-140)

[0044] These vectors may be obtained from the deposited microorganisms as follows. Cells collected at the logarithmic growth phase are subjected to bacteriolysis by using lysozyme and SDS, and centrifuged at 30000 x g to obtain a supernatant solution from a lysate, to which polyethylene glycol is added to perform separation and purification of the vectors by means of cesium chloride-ethidium bromide equilibrium density gradient centrifugation.

[0045] In order to transform Escherichia coli with a recombinant vector obtained by inserting the DNA sequence of the present invention into the aforementioned vector, it is possible to use a method usually used for transformation of Escherichia coli, such as a method in which cells are treated with calcium chloride to enhance permeability of DNA (Mandel, M. and Higa, A., J. Mol. Biol., 53, 159 (1977)) and the like.

[0046] Further, as a method for transforming the coryneform bacteria, there is the aforementioned method in which cells are treated with calcium chloride, or a method in which incorporation is performed at a specified growth period in which cells can incorporate DNA (report in relation to Bacillus subtilis by Duncan, C. H. et al.). Further, incorporation into bacterial cells can be achieved by forming protoplasts or spheroplasts of DNA recipients which easily incorporate plasmid DNA. These are known for Bacillus subtilis, Actinomyces and yeast (Chang, S. et al., Molec. Gen. Genet., 168, 111 (1979), Bibb et al., Nature, 274, 398 (1978), Hinnen, A. et al., Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. USA, 75 1929 (1978)). Additionally, a method for transforming coryneform bacteria is disclosed in Japanese Patent Laid-open No. 2-207791.

[0047] In order to express the DNA sequence of the present invention in the aforementioned hosts, a promoter such as lac, trp, PL and the like which efficiently works in microorganisms may be used, or when the DNA sequence of the present invention contains a promoter of the phosphoenolpyruvate carboxylase gene, it may be used as it is. Alternatively, when the coryneform bacterium is used as the host, it is also possible to use a known trp promoter originating from a bacterium belonging to the genus Brevibacterium (Japanese Patent Laid-open No. 62-244382) and the like.

[0048] Further, as described above, it is acceptable that the DNA sequence of the present invention is inserted into the vector DNA capable of self-replication and introduced into the host to allow the host to harbor it as a plasmid, and it is also acceptable that the DNA sequence of the present invention is integrated into a chromosome of a microorganism by means of a method using transposon (Berg, D. E. and Berg, C. M., Bio/Technol., 1, 417 (1983)), Mu phage (Japanese Patent Laid-open No. 2-109985) or homologous recombination (Experiments in Molecular Genetics, Cold Spring Harbor Lab. (1972)). In addition, in order to integrate the DNA of the present invention into the coryneform bacteria, it is possible to utilize a temperature-sensitive plasmid disclosed in Japanese Patent Laid-open No. 5-7491.

[0049] When the microorganism transformed with the DNA sequence of the present invention as described above is cultivated, and this DNA sequence is expressed, then a mutant enzyme is obtained. It becomes apparent, by measuring the activity by adding aspartic acid to an enzyme reaction system, whether or not the mutant enzyme thus obtained

has desensitized feedback inhibition by aspartic acid. It is possible for the measurement of the enzyme activity to use a spectrometric method (Yoshinaga, T., Izui, K. and Katsuki, H., J. Biochem., 68, 747-750 (1970)) and the like.

[0050] Further, the DNA sequence of the present invention codes for the mutant enzyme in which feedback inhibition by aspartic acid is desensitized, so that the microorganism harboring this DNA sequence can be utilized for efficient fermentative production of amino acids of the aspartic acid family and the glutamic acid family as described below.

[0051] Escherichia coli AJ12907, AJ12908, AJ12909 and AJ12910 harboring the mutant enzyme genes obtained in Examples described below are deposited in National Institute of Bioscience and Human Technology of Agency of Industrial Science and Technology (1-3, Higashi 1-chome, Tsukuba-shi, Ibaraki-ken, Japan; zip code 305) on August 3, 1993 under the deposition numbers of FERM P-13774, FERM P-13775, FERM P-13776 and FERM P-13777, transferred from the original deposition to international deposition based on Budapest Treaty on July 11, 1994 and has been deposited as deposition numbers of FERM BP-4734, FERM BP-4735, FERM BP-4736, FERM BP-4737, respectively in this order.

<3> Production method of amino acids

[0052] Amino acids can be produced by cultivating the microorganism harboring the DNA sequence of the present invention in a preferable medium, and separating generated amino acids. As such amino acids, there may be exemplified L-lysine, L-threonine, L-methionine, L-isoleucine, L-glutamic acid, L-arginine and L-proline.

[0053] Preferable hosts into which the DNA sequence of the present invention is introduced to be used for production of each of the amino acids, and a cultivation method will be exemplified below.

(1) Hosts preferable for the amino acid production method of the present invention

(i) Hosts preferable for L-lysine production

[0054] As the host to be used for L-lysine production according to the present invention, there may be exemplified bacteria belonging to the genus Escherichia, preferably L-lysine-producing Escherichia coli. Concretely, a mutant strain having resistance to a lysine analog can be exemplified. Such a lysine analog is those which inhibit growth of microorganisms belonging to the genus Escherichia, however, the suppression is totally or partially desensitized provided that L-lysine co-exists in the medium. For example, there are oxalysine, lysine hydroxamate, S-(2-aminoethyl)-cysteine (hereinafter abbreviated as "AEC"), γ -methyllysine, α -chlorocaprolactam and the like. Mutant strains having resistance to these lysine analogs can be obtained by applying an ordinary artificial mutation treatment to microorganisms belonging to the genus Escherichia. Concretely, as a bacterial strain to be used for L-lysine production, there may be exemplified Escherichia coli AJ11442 (deposited as FERM P-5084, see lower-left column on page 471 in Japanese Patent Laid-open No. 56-18596).

[0055] On the other hand, various artificial mutant strains of coryneform bacteria which have been used as L-lysine-producing bacteria can be used for the present invention. Such artificial mutant strains are as follows: AEC resistant mutant strain; mutant strain which requires amino acid such as L-homoserine for its growth (Japanese Patent Publication Nos. 48-28078 and 56-6499); mutant strain which exhibits resistance to AEC and requires amino acid such as L-leucine, L-homoserine, L-proline, L-serine, L-arginine, L-alanine, L-valine and the like (United States Patent Nos. 3708395 and 3825472); L-lysine-producing mutant strain which exhibits resistance to DL- α -amino- ϵ -caprolactam, α -amino-lauryllactam, quinoid and N-lauroylleucine; L-lysine-producing mutant strain which exhibits resistance to an inhibitor of oxaloacetate decarboxylase or respiratory system enzyme (Japanese Patent Laid-open Nos. 50-53588, 50-31093, 52-102498, 53-86089, 55-9783, 55-9759, 56-32995 and 56-39778, and Japanese Patent Publication Nos. 53-43591 and 53-1833); L-lysine-producing mutant strain which requires inositol or acetic acid (Japanese Patent Laid-open Nos. 55-9784 and 56-8692); L-lysine-producing mutant strain which exhibits sensitivity to fluoropyruvate or temperature not less than 34 °C (Japanese Patent Laid-open Nos. 55-9783 and 53-86090); and mutant strain of Brevibacterium or Corynebacterium which exhibits resistance to ethylene glycol and produces L-lysine (see United States Patent Application Serial No. 333455).

[0056] Followings are exemplified as concrete coryneform bacteria to be used for lysine production:

Brevibacterium lactofermentum AJ12031 (FERM-BP277), see page 525 in Japanese Patent Laid-open No. 60-62994;

Brevibacterium lactofermentum ATCC 39134, see lower-right column on page 473 in Japanese Patent Laid-open No. 60-62994;

Brevibacterium lactofermentum AJ3463 (FERM-P1987), see Japanese Patent Publication No. 51-34477.

[0057] In addition, wild strains of coryneform bacteria described below can be also used for the present invention in

the same manner.

<u>Corynebacterium acetoacidophilum</u>	ATCC 13870
<u>Corynebacterium acetoglutamicum</u>	ATCC 15806
<u>Corynebacterium callunae</u>	ATCC 15991
<u>Corynebacterium glutamicum</u>	ATCC 13032
	ATCC 13060
(<u>Brevibacterium divaricatum</u>)	ATCC 14020
(<u>Brevibacterium lactofermentum</u>)	ATCC 13869
(<u>Corynebacterium lilium</u>)	ATCC 15990
<u>Corynebacterium melassecola</u>	ATCC 17965
<u>Brevibacterium saccharolyticum</u>	ATCC 14066
<u>Brevibacterium immariophilum</u>	ATCC 14068
<u>Brevibacterium roseum</u>	ATCC 13825
<u>Brevibacterium flavum</u>	ATCC 13826
<u>Brevibacterium thiogenitalis</u>	ATCC 19240
<u>Microbacterium ammoniaphilum</u>	ATCC 15354

(ii) Hosts preferable for L-threonine production

[0058]

Escherichia coli B-3996 (RIA 1867), see Japanese Patent Laid-open No. 3-501682 (PCT);
Escherichia coli AJ12349 (FERM-P9574), see upper-left column on page 887 in Japanese Patent Laid-open No. 2-458;
Escherichia coli AJ12351 (FERM-P9576), see lower-right column on page 887 in Japanese Patent Laid-open No. 2-458;
Escherichia coli AJ12352 (FERM P-9577), see upper-left column on page 888 in Japanese Patent Laid-open No. 2-458;
Escherichia coli AJ11332 (FERM P-4898), see upper-left column on page 889 in Japanese Patent Laid-open No. 2-458;
Escherichia coli AJ12350 (FERM P-9575), see upper-left column on page 889 in Japanese Patent Laid-open No. 2-458;
Escherichia coli AJ12353 (FERM P-9578), see upper-right column on page 889 in Japanese Patent Laid-open No. 2-458;
Escherichia coli AJ12358 (FERM P-9764), see upper-left column on page 890 in Japanese Patent Laid-open No. 2-458;
Escherichia coli AJ12359 (FERM P-9765), see upper-left column on page 890 in Japanese Patent Laid-open No. 2-458;
Escherichia coli AJ11334 (FERM P-4900), see column 6 on page 201 in Japanese Patent Publication No. 1-29559;
Escherichia coli AJ11333 (FERM P-4899), see column 6 on page 201 in Japanese Patent Publication No. 1-29559;
Escherichia coli AJ11335 (FERM P-4901), see column 7 on page 202 in Japanese Patent Publication No. 1-29559.

[0059] Following bacterial strains are exemplified as the coryneform bacteria:

Brevibacterium lactofermentum AJ11188 (FERM P-4190), see upper-right column on page 473 in Japanese Patent Laid-open No. 60-87788;
Corynebacterium glutamicum AJ11682 (FERM BP-118), see column 8 on page 230 in Japanese Patent Publication No. 2-31956;
Brevibacterium flavum AJ11683 (FERM BP-119), see column 10 on page 231 in Japanese Patent Publication No.

2-31956.

(iii) Hosts preferable for L-methionine production

[0060] Following bacterial strains are exemplified for L-methionine production:

Escherichia coli AJ11457 (FERM P-5175), see upper-right column on page 552 in Japanese Patent Laid-open No. 56-35992;

Escherichia coli AJ11458 (FERM P-5176), see upper-right column on page 552 in Japanese Patent Laid-open No. 56-35992;

Escherichia coli AJ11459 (FERM P-5177), see upper-right column on page 552 in Japanese Patent Laid-open No. 56-35992;

Escherichia coli AJ11539 (FERM P-5479), see lower-left column on page 435 in Japanese Patent Laid-open No. 56-144092;

Escherichia coli AJ11540 (FERM P-5480), see lower-left column on page 435 in Japanese Patent Laid-open No. 56-144092;

Escherichia coli AJ11541 (FERM P-5481), see lower-left column on page 435 in Japanese Patent Laid-open No. 56-144092;

Escherichia coli AJ11542 (FERM P-5482), see lower-left column on page 435 in Japanese Patent Laid-open No. 56-144092.

(iv) Hosts preferable for L-aspartic acid production

[0061] Following bacterial strains are exemplified for L-aspartic acid production:

Brevibacterium flavum AJ3859 (FERM P-2799), see upper-left column on page 524 in Japanese Patent Laid-open No. 51-61689;

Brevibacterium lactofermentum AJ3860 (FERM P-2800), see upper-left column on page 524 in Japanese Patent Laid-open No. 51-61689;

Corynebacterium acetoacidophilum AJ3877 (FERM-P2803), see upper-left column on page 524 in Japanese Patent Laid-open No. 51-61689;

Corynebacterium glutamicum AJ3876 (FERM P-2802), see upper-left column on page 524 in Japanese Patent Laid-open No. 51-61689.

(v) Hosts preferable for L-isoleucine production

[0062] Escherichia coli KX141 (VKPM-B4781) (see 45th paragraph in Japanese Patent Laid-open No. 4-33027) is exemplified as the bacteria belonging to the genus Escherichia, and Brevibacterium lactofermentum AJ12404 (FERM P-10141) (see lower-left column on page 603 in Japanese Patent Laid-open No. 2-42988) and Brevibacterium flavum AJ12405 (FERM P-10142) (see lower-left column on page 524 in Japanese Patent Laid-open No. 2-42988) are exemplified as the coryneform bacteria.

(vi) Hosts preferable for L-glutamic acid production

[0063] Following bacterial strains are exemplified as the bacteria belonging to the genus Escherichia:

Escherichia coli AJ12628 (FERM P-12380), see French Patent Publication No. 2 680 178 (1993);

Escherichia coli AJ12624 (FERM P-12379), see French Patent Publication No. 2 680 178 (1993).

[0064] Following bacterial strains are exemplified as the coryneform bacteria:

Brevibacterium lactofermentum AJ12745 (FERM BP-2922), see lower-right column on page 561 in Japanese Patent Laid-open No. 3-49690;

Brevibacterium lactofermentum AJ12746 (FERM BP-2923), see upper-left column on page 562 in Japanese Patent Laid-open No. 3-49690;

Brevibacterium lactofermentum AJ12747 (FERM BP-2924), see upper-left column on page 562 in Japanese Patent Laid-open No. 3-49690;

Brevibacterium lactofermentum AJ12748 (FERM BP-2925), see upper-left column on page 562 in Japanese Patent Laid-open No. 3-49690;

Brevibacterium flavum ATCC 14067, see Table 1 on page 3 in Japanese Patent Laid-open No. 5-3793;

Corynebacterium glutamicum ATCC 21492, see Table 1 on page 3 in Japanese Patent Laid-open No. 5-3793.

(vii) Hosts preferable for L-arginine production

[0065] Following bacterial strains are exemplified as the bacteria belonging to the genus Escherichia:

Escherichia coli AJ11593 (FERM P-5616), see upper-left column on page 468 in Japanese Patent Laid-open No. 57-5693;

Escherichia coli AJ11594 (FERM P-5617), see upper-right column on page 468 in Japanese Patent Laid-open No. 57-5693.

[0066] Following bacterial strains are exemplified as the coryneform bacteria:

Brevibacterium flavum AJ12144 (FERM P-7642), see column 4 on page 174 in Japanese Patent Publication No. 5-27388;

Corynebacterium glutamicum AJ12145 (FERM P-7643), see column 4 on page 174 in Japanese Patent Publication No. 5-27388;

Brevibacterium flavum ATCC 21493, see Table 1 on page 3 in Japanese Patent Laid-open No. 5-3793;

Corynebacterium glutamicum ATCC 21659, see Table 1 on page 3 in Japanese Patent Laid-open No. 5-3793.

(viii) Hosts preferable for L-proline production

[0067] Following bacterial strains are exemplified as the bacteria belonging to the genus Escherichia:

Escherichia coli AJ11543 (FERM P-5483), see lower-left column on page 435 in Japanese Patent Laid-open No. 56-144093;

Escherichia coli AJ11544 (FERM P-5484), see lower-left column on page 435 in Japanese Patent Laid-open No. 56-144093.

[0068] Following bacterial strains are exemplified as the coryneform bacteria:

Brevibacterium lactofermentum AJ11225 (FERM P-4370), see upper-left column on page 473 in Japanese Patent Laid-open No. 60-87788;

Brevibacterium flavum AJ11512 (FERM P-5332), see column 2 on page 185 in Japanese Patent Publication No. 62-36679;

Brevibacterium flavum AJ11513 (FERM P-5333), see column 2 on page 185 in Japanese Patent Publication No. 62-36679;

Brevibacterium flavum AJ11514 (FERM P-5334), see column 2 on page 185 in Japanese Patent Publication No. 62-36679;

Corynebacterium glutamicum AJ11522 (FERM P-5342), see column 2 on page 185 in Japanese Patent Publication No. 62-36679;

Corynebacterium glutamicum AJ11523 (FERM P-5343), see column 2 on page 185 in Japanese Patent Publication No. 62-36679.

(2) Cultivation method

[0069] The method for cultivating the aforementioned hosts is not especially different from a cultivation method for amino acid-producing microorganisms in the prior art. Namely, an ordinary medium is used containing a carbon source, a nitrogen source and inorganic ions, and optionally organic trace nutrients such as amino acids, vitamins and the like.

[0070] As the carbon source, glucose, sucrose, lactose and the like, as well as starch hydrolysate, whey, molasses and the like containing them may be used. As the nitrogen source, ammonia gas, aqueous ammonium, ammonium salt and the like can be used. Incidentally, when a nutrient requiring mutant strain for amino acids or the like is used as the host, it is necessary to suitably add the nutrient such as amino acid or the like required by the strain to the medium. An example of the medium for lysine production is shown in Table 1 below as a medium to be used for amino acid production. Incidentally, calcium carbonate is added to other components after being separately sterilized.

Table 1

Medium component	Blending amount
glucose	5 g/dl

Table 1 (continued)

Medium component	Blending amount
(NH ₄) ₂ SO ₄	2.5 g/dl
KH ₂ PO ₄	0.2 g/dl
MgSO ₄ ·7H ₂ O	0.1 g/dl
yeast extract	0.05 g/dl
thiamine hydrochloride	1 µg/l
biotin	300 µg/l
FeSO ₄ ·7H ₂ O	1 mg/dl
MnSO ₄ ·4H ₂ O	1 mg/dl
calcium carbonate (pH 7.0)	2.5 g/dl

[0071] The cultivation is performed until generation and accumulation of amino acids substantially stop while suitably controlling pH and temperature of the medium under an aerobic condition. In order to collect amino acids thus accumulated in the cultivated medium, an ordinary method can be applied.

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS

[0072] Fig. 1 shows growth inhibition by 3-bromopyruvate.

[0073] Fig. 2 shows growth inhibition by aspartate-β-hydrazide.

[0074] Fig. 3 shows growth inhibition by DL-threo-β-hydroxyaspartate.

[0075] Fig. 4 shows effects of inhibition recovering substances on 3-bromopyruvate.

[0076] Fig. 5 shows effects of inhibition recovering substances on aspartate-β-hydrazide.

[0077] Fig. 6 shows effects of inhibition recovering substances on DL-threo-β-hydroxyaspartate.

[0078] Fig. 7 shows influences exerted on growth by growth recovering factors.

[0079] Fig. 8 shows inhibition of phosphoenolpyruvate carboxylase by growth inhibitory substances.

[0080] Fig. 9 shows inhibition of phosphoenolpyruvate carboxylase of the present invention by aspartic acid.

[0081] Fig. 10 shows inhibition of phosphoenolpyruvate carboxylase of the present invention by aspartic acid.

BEST MODE FOR CARRYING OUT THE INVENTION

[0082] The present invention will be explained more concretely below with reference to Examples.

Example 1: acquisition of mutant phosphoenolpyruvate carboxylase gene

[0083] A mutant gene was prepared by using a plasmid pS2 obtained by inserting a phosphoenolpyruvate carboxylase gene having been cloned and determined for its base sequence into a Sall site of a vector plasmid pBR322. pS2 has an ampicillin resistance gene as a drug resistance marker gene (Sabe, H. et al., Gene, 31, 279-283 (1984)). The nucleotide sequence of the phosphoenolpyruvate carboxylase gene contained in pS2 is the same as that contained in the aforementioned plasmid pT2.

[0084] pS2 DNA was treated at 75 °C for 2 hours with a hydroxylamine treating solution (20 µg/ml pS2 DNA, 0.05 M sodium phosphate (pH 6.0), 1 mM EDTA, 0.4 M hydroxylamine). Because of influence by pH on the hydroxylamine treatment, 80 µl of 1 M hydroxylamine-HCl and 1 mM EDTA solution having a pH adjusted to 6.0 with sodium hydroxide, 100 µl of 0.1 M sodium phosphate (pH 6.0) and 1 mM EDTA solution, and TE (10 mM Tris-HCl, 1 mM EDTA) buffer containing 2 µg of pS2 DNA were mixed, to finally provide 200 µl with water.

[0085] The aforementioned condition is a condition in which transformants has a survival ratio of 0.2 % based on a state before the treatment in an ampicillin-containing medium when Escherichia coli HB101 is transformed with pS2 after the treatment.

[0086] Escherichia coli HB101 was transformed with pS2 treated with hydroxylamine, which was spread on a solid plate medium containing ampicillin to obtain about 10000 colonies of transformants. They were suspended in a liquid medium, and spread on a solid plate medium containing any one of 3-bromopyruvate (3BP), aspartate-β-hydroxamate (AHX), aspartate-β-hydrazide (AHY) and DL-threo-β-hydroxyaspartate (BHA) as the analog compounds of aspartic acid at a concentration near a minimal inhibitory concentration to give 10³ to 10⁵ cells per one medium plate, and growing colonies were selected.

[0087] From 100 strains of analog compound resistant strains thus obtained, phosphoenolpyruvate carboxylase produced by each of them was partially purified in accordance with a method described in *The Journal of Biochemistry*, Vol. 67, No. 4 (1970), and inhibition of enzyme activity by the analog compounds was investigated. Measurement of the enzyme activity was performed in the same manner as described above.

[0088] Further, plasmids were isolated from bacterial strains producing mutant enzymes with activities not inhibited by the analog compounds, and were introduced into *Escherichia coli* PCR1 as a phosphoenolpyruvate carboxylase deficient strain (Sabe, H. et al., *Gene*, 31, 279-283 (1984)), to confirm production of the mutant enzymes.

[0089] Five transformants harboring mutant enzyme genes were thus obtained. As a result of determination of base sequences of these genes, 2 strains had the same mutation, and 4 kinds of mutant genes were obtained. The transformants harboring them were designated as AJ12907, AJ12908, AJ12909 and AJ12910, and were deposited in National Institute of Bioscience and Human Technology of Agency of Industrial Science and Technology-3, Higashi 1-chome, Tsukuba-shi, Ibaraki-ken, Japan; zip code 305) on August 3, 1993 under the deposition numbers of FERM P-13774, FERM P-13775, FERM P-13776 and FERM P-13777, transferred from the original deposition to international deposition based on Budapest Treaty on July 11, 1994 and has been deposited as deposition numbers of FERM BP-4734, FERM BP-4735, FERM BP-4736, FERM BP-4737, respectively in this order. Further, the plasmids possessed by them were designated as pBP5, pHA19, pBP122 and pR6 respectively in this order. Mutations possessed by the phosphoenolpyruvate carboxylase genes contained in each of the plasmids are shown in Table 2. Numerical values in the table indicate nucleotide numbers or amino acid numbers in SEQ ID NO:1.

Table 2

Transformant	Plasmid	Mutation	Amino acid replacement associated with mutation
AJ12907	pBP5	2109G→A	625Glu→Lys
AJ12908	pHA19	901G→A	222Arg→His
		903G→A	223Glu→Lys
AJ12909	pBP122	1099C→T	288Ser→Phe
		1101G→A	289Glu→Lys
		1889G→A	551Met→Ile
		2646G→A	804Glu→Lys
AJ12910	pR6	2835G→A	867Ala→Thr

[0090] Incidentally, selection was performed for AJ12907 and AJ12909 in a medium containing 500 µg/ml of 3BP, for AJ12908 in a medium containing 1000 µg/ml of βHA, and for AJ12910 in a medium containing 500 µg/ml of AHY.

Example 2: mutant phosphoenolpyruvate carboxylase

[0091] Sensitivity to aspartic acid was investigated for phosphoenolpyruvate carboxylases produced by the aforementioned 4 transformants. These bacterial strains are deficient in the phosphoenolpyruvate carboxylase gene originating from the host, so that produced phosphoenolpyruvate carboxylase originates from the plasmid.

[0092] Sensitivity to aspartic acid was investigated in accordance with a known method (Yoshinaga, T., Izui, K. and Katsuki, H., *J. Biochem.*, 68, 747-750 (1970)). Namely, as a result of measurement of the enzyme activity produced by each of the transformants or *Escherichia coli* harboring pS2 in the presence of acetyl-coenzyme A known to affect the activity in an activity measurement system at a concentration of 0.1 mM or 1 mM, sensitivity to aspartic acid was measured as shown in Figs. 9 and 10.

[0093] According to the result, it is apparent that the wild type enzyme loses its activity when aspartic acid is at a high concentration, while the mutant phosphoenolpyruvate carboxylase of the present invention substantially continues to maintain its activity.

Example 3: fermentative production of L-threonine by *Escherichia coli* with introduced mutant phosphoenolpyruvate carboxylase

[0094] As threonine-producing bacteria of *Escherichia coli*, B-3996 strain (Japanese Patent Laid-open No. 3-501682 (PCT)) has the highest production ability among those known at present. Thus upon evaluation of the mutant phosphoenolpyruvate carboxylase, B-3996 was used as the host. This B-3996 strain has been deposited in Research Institute for Genetics and Industrial Microorganism Breeding under a registration number of RIA 1867. Further, pBP5 was selected as the mutant phosphoenolpyruvate carboxylase to be evaluated, which was subjected to an experiment.

[0095] The plasmid pBP5 having the mutant phosphoenolpyruvate carboxylase was introduced into *Escherichia coli*

B-3996 in accordance with a method of Hanahan (J. Mol. Biol., Vol. 106, p577 (1983)), and a transformant was isolated. As a control, Escherichia coli B-3996 was transformed in the same manner with pS2 as the plasmid to express the wild type phosphoenolpyruvate carboxylase gene.

[0096] When Escherichia coli B-3996 and the transformants therefrom were respectively inoculated in a 500 ml of Sakaguchi flask poured with 20 ml of a medium having a composition in Table 3, and cultivated at 37 °C for 40 hours to investigate a production amount of L-threonine, then results shown in Table 4 were obtained. Incidentally, the aforementioned medium was separated into two: glucose and $\text{MgSO}_4 \cdot 7\text{H}_2\text{O}$, and the other components, and adjusted to have a pH of 7.0 with KOH followed by autoclaving at 115 °C for 10 minutes, and then, after mixing them, separately sterilized CaCO_3 was added by 30 g/l.

Table 3

Component	Blending amount (g/l)
glucose	40
$(\text{NH}_4)_2\text{SO}_4$	16
KH_2PO_4	1
$\text{MgSO}_4 \cdot 7\text{H}_2\text{O}$	1
$\text{FeSO}_4 \cdot 7\text{H}_2\text{O}$	0.01
$\text{MnSO}_4 \cdot 5\text{H}_2\text{O}$	0.01
yeast extract (Difco)	2
L-Met	0.5
CaCO_3	30

Table 4

Bacterial strain (g/l)	Threonine production amount
<u>Escherichia coli</u> B-3996	15.7
<u>Escherichia coli</u> B-3996/pS2	15.8
<u>Escherichia coli</u> B-3996/pBP5	16.8

[0097] As clarified from the result, Escherichia coli B-3996/pBP5 harboring the mutant enzyme expression plasmid having the DNA sequence of the present invention had an improved threonine-producing ability as compared with Escherichia coli B-3996/pS2 harboring the plasmid to express the wild type enzyme.

Example4: fermentative production of L-glutamic acid by Escherichia coli with introduced mutant phosphoenolpyruvate carboxylase

[0098] As glutamic acid-producing bacteria of Escherichia coli, Escherichia coli AJ-12628 described in Japanese Patent Laid-open No. 4-11461 has the highest production ability among those known at present. Thus upon evaluation of the mutant phosphoenolpyruvate carboxylase, AJ-12628 was used as the host.

[0099] The AJ-12628 strain has been deposited in National Institute of Bioscience and Human Technology of Agency of Industrial Science and Technology under a registration number of FERM BP-385 Further, pBP5 was selected as the mutant phosphoenolpyruvate carboxylase to be evaluated, which was subjected to an experiment.

[0100] The plasmid pBP5 having the mutant phosphoenolpyruvate carboxylase was introduced into Escherichia coli AJ-12628 in accordance with a method of Hanahan (J. Mol. Biol., Vol. 106, p577 (1983)), and a transformant was isolated. In the same manner, a transformant of Escherichia coli AJ-12628 with pS2 was isolated.

[0101] When Escherichia coli AJ-12628 and the transformants therefrom were respectively inoculated in a 500 ml of Sakaguchi flask poured with 20 ml of a medium having a composition in Table 5, and cultivated at 37 °C for 36 hours to investigate a production amount of L-glutamic acid, then results shown in Table 6 were obtained. Incidentally, the aforementioned medium was separated into two: glucose and $\text{MgSO}_4 \cdot 7\text{H}_2\text{O}$, and the other components, and adjusted to have a pH of 7.0 with KOH followed by autoclaving at 115 °C for 10 minutes, and then, after mixing them, separately sterilized CaCO_3 was added by 30 g/l.

Table 5

Component	Blending amount (g/l)
glucose	40
(NH ₄) ₂ SO ₄	16
KH ₂ PO ₄	1
MgSO ₄ •7H ₂ O	1
FeSO ₄ •7H ₂ O	0.01
MnSO ₄ •5H ₂ O	0.01
yeast extract (Difco)	2
CaCO ₃	30

Table 6

Bacterial strain	Glutamic acid production amount (g/l)
<u>Escherichia coli</u> AJ-12628	18.0
<u>Escherichia coli</u> AJ-12628/pS2	18.3
<u>Escherichia coli</u> AJ-12628/pBP5	19.6

[0102] As clarified from the result, Escherichia coli AJ-12628/pBP5 harboring the mutant enzyme expression plasmid having the DNA sequence of the present invention had an improved glutamate-producing ability as compared with Escherichia coli AJ-12628/pS2 harboring the plasmid to express the wild type enzyme.

Example 5: production of L-lysine by coryneform bacterium with introduced mutant phosphoenolpyruvate carboxylase

[0103] In order to introduce and express the mutant gene in a coryneform bacterium, a promoter originating from a bacterium belonging to the genus Brevibacterium was obtained, and was ligated with the mutant gene to prepare an expression type plasmid. Further, it was introduced into a bacterium belonging to the genus Brevibacterium to perform production of L-lysine.

<1> Acquisition of aspartokinase (AK) gene originating from bacterium belonging to the genus Brevibacterium

[0104] Chromosomal DNA was prepared according to an ordinary method from a Brevibacterium lactofermentum (Corynebacterium glutamicum) wild strain (ATCC 13869). An AK gene was amplified from the chromosomal DNA by PCR (polymerase chain reaction; see White, T. J. et al., Trends Genet., 5, 185 (1989)). For DNA primers used in the amplification, an oligonucleotide of 23 mer (SEQ ID NO:3) and an oligonucleotide of 21 mer (SEQ ID NO:4) were synthesized to amplify a region of about 1643 bp coding for the AK gene based on a sequence known in Corynebacterium glutamicum (see Molecular Microbiology (1991) 5 (5), 1197-1204, Mol. Gen. Genet. (1990) 224, 317-324).

[0105] The synthesis of DNA was performed in accordance with an ordinary phosphoramidite method (see Tetrahedron Letters (1981), 22, 1859) using a DNA synthesizer model 380B produced by Applied Biosystems Co. In the PCR reaction, DNA Thermal Cycler PJ2000 type produced by Takara Shuzo Co., Ltd. was used, and gene amplification was performed by using Taq DNA polymerase in accordance with a method designated by the manufacturer.

[0106] An amplified gene fragment of 1643 kb was confirmed by agarose gel electrophoresis, and then the fragment cut out from the gel was purified by an ordinary method, and was cleaved with restriction enzymes NruI (produced by Takara Shuzo Co., Ltd.) and EcoRI (produced by Takara Shuzo Co., Ltd.). pHSG399 (see Takeshita, S. et al.; Gene (1987), 61, 63-74) was used for a cloning vector for the gene fragment. pHSG399 was cleaved with a restriction enzyme SmaI (produced by Takara Shuzo Co., Ltd.) and a restriction enzyme EcoRI, and ligated with the amplified AK gene fragment.

[0107] Ligation of DNA was performed by a designated method by using a DNA ligation kit (produced by Takara Shuzo Co., Ltd.). In such a manner, a plasmid was manufactured in which pHSG399 was ligated with the AK gene fragment amplified from Brevibacterium chromosome. The plasmid having the AK gene originating from ATCC 13869 as the wild strain was designated as p399AKY.

<2> Determination of base sequence of AK gene of Brevibacterium lactofermentum

[0108] The AK plasmid, p399AKY was prepared, and the base sequence of the AK gene was determined. Determination of the base sequence was performed in accordance with the method of Sanger et al. (F. Sanger et al.: Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. USA, 74, 5463 (1977) and so forth). Results are shown in SEQ ID NO:5 and SEQ ID NO:7. The DNA fragments have two open reading frames which correspond to α -subunit and β -subunit of AK, respectively. In SEQ ID NO:5 and SEQ ID NO:7, amino acid sequences corresponding to each of the open reading frames are shown together with nucleotide sequences. Further, only the amino acid sequences corresponding to each of the open reading frames are shown in SEQ ID NO:6 and SEQ ID NO:8.

<3> Preparation of phosphoenolpyruvate carboxylase expression plasmid

[0109] Sall fragments of about 4.4 kb containing phosphoenolpyruvate carboxylase genes were extracted from pS2 as the plasmid having the wild type phosphoenolpyruvate carboxylase gene and pBP5 as the plasmid having the obtained mutant phosphoenolpyruvate carboxylase gene, and inserted into a Sall site of a plasmid vector pHSG399 universally used for Escherichia coli. Manufactured plasmids were designated as pHS2 for the wild type and as pHPB5 for the mutant.

[0110] In order to convert pHS2 and pHPB5 into plasmids to express in Brevibacterium, a promoter and a replication origin of a plasmid for functioning in Brevibacterium were introduced. As the promoter, a gene fragment containing one from 1st NruI site to 207th ApaLI site of the base sequence, which was postulated to be a promoter region of the cloned AK gene, was extracted from p399AKY, and inserted into an AvaI site located about 60 bp before the structural genes of pHS2 and pHPB5 to allow the transcription direction to be in a regular direction.

[0111] Further, a gene fragment to enable autonomously replication of the plasmid in Brevibacterium, namely the replication origin of the plasmid was introduced into a site located on the vector. A gene fragment containing the replication origin of the plasmid was extracted from a vector pHC4 for Brevibacterium (see paragraph No. 10 in Japanese Patent Laid-open No. 5-7491; Escherichia coli AJ12039 harboring the same plasmid is deposited in National Institute of Bioscience and Human Technology of Agency of Industrial Science and Technology, to which a deposition number of FERM P12215 is given), and restriction enzyme sites at both termini were modified into PstI sites by introduction of linkers.

[0112] This fragment was introduced into a PstI site in a vector portion of the plasmid added with the promoter derived from Brevibacterium. Constructed phosphoenolpyruvate carboxylase-expressing plasmids were designated as pHS2B for a wild type phosphoenolpyruvate carboxylase plasmid originating from pS2 and as pHPB5B for a mutant phosphoenolpyruvate carboxylase plasmid originating from pBP5, respectively.

<4> Production of L-lysine by using phosphoenolpyruvate carboxylase expression type plasmid

[0113] Prepared pHS2B and pHPB5B were respectively introduced into AJ3463 as an L-lysine-producing bacterium of Brevibacterium lactofermentum (see Japanese Patent Publication No. 51-34477). For introduction of the gene, a transformation method employing electric pulse was used (see Japanese Patent Laid-open No. 2-207791). The host strain and transformants were cultivated with shaking for 72 hours at 31.5 °C in a lysine production medium having a composition in Table 7. The aforementioned medium was prepared such that those except for CaCO_3 among the components listed in the table were added to 1 l of water, and adjusted to have a pH of 8.0 with KOH followed by autoclaving at 115 °C for 15 minutes, and then CaCO_3 having been subjected to heat sterilization was further added. Accumulated amounts of L-lysine in the medium after cultivation are shown in Table 8.

Table 7

Component	Blending amount in 1 L
glucose	100 g
$(\text{NH}_4)_2\text{SO}_4$	55 g
soybean concentrate*	35 ml
KH_2PO_4	1 g
$\text{MgSO}_4 \cdot 7\text{H}_2\text{O}$	1 g
vitamin B1	20 g
biotin	5 g

*: product of Ajinomoto Co., Ltd. (trade name: Mamenou)

Table 7 (continued)

Component	Blending amount in 1 L
nicotinic acid amide	5 mg
FeSO ₄ ·7H ₂ O	0.01 g
MnSO ₄ ·5H ₂ O	0.01 g
CaCO ₃	50g

Table 8

Bacterial strain	Lysine production amount (g/l)
<i>Brevibacterium lactofermentum</i> AJ3463	20.0
<i>Brevibacterium lactofermentum</i> AJ3463/pHS2B	22.0
<i>Brevibacterium lactofermentum</i> AJ3463/pHBP5B	25.0

[0114] As shown in the result, *Brevibacterium lactofermentum* AJ3463/pHBP5B harboring the mutant enzyme expression plasmid having the DNA sequence of the present invention had an improved lysine-producing ability as compared with *Brevibacterium lactofermentum* AJ3463/pHS2B harboring the plasmid to express the wild type enzyme.

INDUSTRIAL APPLICABILITY

[0115] The DNA sequence of the present invention codes for the mutant phosphoenolpyruvate carboxylase, and the microorganism harboring this DNA sequence produces the aforementioned enzyme.

[0116] The mutant phosphoenolpyruvate carboxylase of the present invention does not substantially undergo activity inhibition by aspartic acid, so that it can be utilized for fermentative production of amino acids subjected to regulation of biosynthesis by aspartic acid and the like.

SEQUENCE LISTING

[0117]

(1) GENERAL INFORMATION:

(i) APPLICANT: Ajinomoto Co. Inc.

(A) NAME:

(B) STREET: 15-1, Kyobashi 1-chome, Chuo-ku

(C) CITY: Tokyo

(D) STATE OR PROVINCE:

(E) COUNTRY: Japan

(F) POSTAL CODE: 104

(ii) TITLE OF INVENTION: Mutant Phosphoenolpyruvate Carboxylase, Its gene, and Production Method of Amino Acid

(iii) NUMBER OF SEQUENCES:12

(iv) COMPUTER READABLE FORM:

(A) MEDIUM TYPE: Floppy disk

(B) COMPUTER: IBM PC compatible

(C) OPERATING SYSTEM: PC-DOS/MS-DOS

(D) SOFTWARE: PatentIn Release #1.0, Version #1.25

(v) CURRENT APPLICATION DATA:

(A) APPLICATION NUMBER:

(B) FILING DATE:

(C) CLASSIFICATION:

(vi) PRIOR APPLICATION DATA:

- 5 (A) APPLICATION NUMBER:
(B) FILING DATE:

(2) INFORMATION FOR SEQ ID NO:1:

10 (i) SEQUENCE CHARACTERISTICS:

- (A) LENGTH: 5186
(B) TYPE: nucleic acid
(C) STRANDEDNESS: double
15 (D) TOPOLOGY: circular

(ii) MOLECULAR TYPE: other..genomic DNA and vector DNA

(iii) HYPOTHETICAL: NO

(iv) ANTI-SENSE: NO

20 (vi) ORIGINAL SOURCE:

(A) ORGANISM: Escherichia coli

(ix) FEATURE:

- 25 (A) NAME/KEY: CDS
(B) LOCATION: 237..2888

(xi) SEQUENCE DESCRIPTION: SEQ ID NO:2:

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COGCTTTTAC GTGGCTTTAT AAAAGAOGAC GAAAAGCAAA GCOOGAGCAT ATTGCGGCCA 180
35

40

45

50

55

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	ATG AAC GAA CAA TAT TOC GCA TTG CGT AGT AAT GTC AGT ATG CTC GGC	284
5	Met Asn Glu Gln Tyr Ser Ala Leu Arg Ser Asn Val Ser Met Leu Gly	
	1 5 10 15	
	AAA GTG CTG GGA GAA ACC ATC AAG GAT GCG TTG GGA GAA CAC ATT CTT	332
	Lys Val Leu Gly Glu Thr Ile Lys Asp Ala Leu Gly Glu His Ile Leu	
	20 25 30	
10	GAA CGC GTA GAA ACT ATC CGT AAG TTG TCG AAA TCT TCA CGC GCT GGC	380
	Glu Arg Val Glu Thr Ile Arg Lys Leu Ser Lys Ser Ser Arg Ala Gly	
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	Asn Asp Glu Leu Leu Pro Val Ala Arg Ala Phe Ser Gln Phe Leu Asn	
	65 70 75 80	
20	CTG GGC AAC ACC GGC GAG CAA TAC CAC AGC ATT TCG CCG AAA GGC GAA	524
	Leu Ala Asn Thr Ala Glu Gln Tyr His Ser Ile Ser Pro Lys Gly Glu	
	85 90 95	
	GCT GCC AGC AAC CCG GAA GTG ATC GCC CGC ACC CTG CGT AAA CTG AAA	572
25	Ala Ala Ser Asn Pro Glu Val Ile Ala Arg Thr Leu Arg Lys Leu Lys	
	100 105 110	
	AAC CAG CCG GAA CTG AGC GAA GAC ACC ATC AAA AAA GCA GTG GAA TCG	620
	Asn Gln Pro Glu Leu Ser Glu Asp Thr Ile Lys Lys Ala Val Glu Ser	
	115 120 125	
30	CTG TCG CTG GAA CTG GTC CTC ACG GCT CAC CCA ACC GAA ATT ACC CGT	668
	Leu Ser Leu Glu Leu Val Leu Thr Ala His Pro Thr Glu Ile Thr Arg	
	130 135 140	
	CGT ACA CTG ATC CAC AAA ATG GTG GAA GTG AAC GCC TGT TTA AAA CAG	716
35	Arg Thr Leu Ile His Lys Met Val Glu Val Asn Ala Cys Leu Lys Gln	
	145 150 155 160	
	CTC GAT AAC AAA GAT ATC GCT GAC TAC GAA CAC AAC CAG CTG ATG CGT	764
	Leu Asp Asn Lys Asp Ile Ala Asp Tyr Glu His Asn Gln Leu Met Arg	
	165 170 175	
40	CGC CTG CGC CAG TTG ATC GCC CAG TCA TGG CAT ACC GAT GAA ATC CGT	812
	Arg Leu Arg Gln Leu Ile Ala Gln Ser Trp His Thr Asp Glu Ile Arg	
	180 185 190	
	AAG CTG CGT CCA AGC CCG GTA GAT GAA GCC AAA TGG GGC TTT GCC GTA	860
45	Lys Leu Arg Pro Ser Pro Val Asp Glu Ala Lys Trp Gly Phe Ala Val	
	195 200 205	
	GTG GAA AAC AGC CTG TGG CAA GGC GTA CCA AAT TAC CTG CGC GAA CTG	908
	Val Glu Asn Ser Leu Trp Gln Gly Val Pro Asn Tyr Leu Arg Glu Leu	
50	210 215 220	
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	AAC GAA CAA CTG GAA GAG AAC CTC GGC TAC AAA CTG CCC GTC GAA TTT	956
	Asn Glu Gln Leu Glu Glu Asn Leu Gly Tyr Lys Leu Pro Val Glu Phe	
5	225 230 235 240	
	GTT CCG GTC CGT TTT ACT TCG TGG ATG GGC GGC GAC CCG GAC GGC AAC	1004
	Val Pro Val Arg Phe Thr Ser Trp Met Gly Gly Asp Arg Asp Gly Asn	
	245 250 255	
10	CCG AAC GTC ACT GGC GAT ATC ACC CCG CAC GTC CTG CTA CTC AGC CCG	1052
	Pro Asn Val Thr Ala Asp Ile Thr Arg His Val Leu Leu Leu Ser Arg	
	260 265 270	
	TGG AAA GGC ACC GAT TTG TTC CTG AAA GAT ATT CAG GTG CTG GTT TCT	1100
	Trp Lys Ala Thr Asp Leu Phe Leu Lys Asp Ile Gln Val Leu Val Ser	
15	275 280 285	
	GAA CTG TCG ATG GTT GAA GCG ACC CCT GAA CTG CTG GCG CTG GTT GGC	1148
	Glu Leu Ser Met Val Glu Ala Thr Pro Glu Leu Leu Ala Leu Val Gly	
	290 295 300	
20	GAA GAA GGT GGC GCA GAA CCG TAT CCG TAT CTG ATG AAA AAC CTG CGT	1196
	Glu Glu Gly Ala Ala Glu Pro Tyr Arg Tyr Leu Met Lys Asn Leu Arg	
	305 310 315 320	
	TCT CCG CTG ATG GCG ACA CAG GCA TGG CTG GAA GCG CCG CTG AAA GGC	1244
	Ser Arg Leu Met Ala Thr Gln Ala Trp Leu Glu Ala Arg Leu Lys Gly	
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	GAA GAA CTG CCA AAA CCA GAA GGC CTG CTG ACA CAA AAC GAA GAA CTG	1292
	Glu Glu Leu Pro Lys Pro Glu Gly Leu Leu Thr Gln Asn Glu Glu Leu	
	340 345 350	
30	TGG GAA CCG CTC TAC GCT TGC TAC CAG TCA CTT CAG GCG TGT GGC ATG	1340
	Trp Glu Pro Leu Tyr Ala Cys Tyr Gln Ser Leu Gln Ala Cys Gly Met	
	355 360 365	
	GGT ATT ATC GCC AAC GGC GAT CTG CTC GAC ACC CTG CCG CCG GTG AAA	1388
	Gly Ile Ile Ala Asn Gly Asp Leu Leu Asp Thr Leu Arg Arg Val Lys	
35	370 375 380	
	TGT TTC GGC GTA CCG CTG GTC CGT ATT GAT ATC CCG CAG GAG AGC ACG	1436
	Cys Phe Gly Val Pro Leu Val Arg Ile Asp Ile Arg Gln Glu Ser Thr	
	385 390 395 400	
40	CGT CAT ACC GAA GCG CTG GGC GAG CTG ACC CCG TAC CTC GGT ATC GGC	1484
	Arg His Thr Glu Ala Leu Gly Glu Leu Thr Arg Tyr Leu Gly Ile Gly	
	405 410 415	
	GAC TAC GAA AGC TGG TCA GAG GGC GAC AAA CAG GCG TTC CTG ATC CCG	1532
	Asp Tyr Glu Ser Trp Ser Glu Ala Asp Lys Gln Ala Phe Leu Ile Arg	
45	420 425 430	
	GAA CTG AAC TCC AAA CCG CCG CTT CTG CCG CCG AAC TGG CAA CCA AGC	1580
	Glu Leu Asn Ser Lys Arg Pro Leu Leu Pro Arg Asn Trp Gln Pro Ser	
	435 440 445	
50	GCC GAA ACG CCG GAA GTG CTC GAT ACC TGC CAG GTG ATT GCC GAA GCA	1628
	Ala Glu Thr Arg Glu Val Leu Asp Thr Cys Gln Val Ile Ala Glu Ala	
	450 455 460	

	COG	CAA	GGC	TCC	ATT	GCC	GCC	TAC	GTG	ATC	TCG	ATG	GCG	AAA	ACG	CCG	1676
	Pro	Gln	Gly	Ser	Ile	Ala	Ala	Tyr	Val	Ile	Ser	Met	Ala	Lys	Thr	Pro	
	465					470					475					480	
5	TOC	GAC	GTA	CTG	GCT	GTC	CAC	CTG	CTG	CTG	AAA	GAA	GCG	GGT	ATC	GGG	1724
	Ser	Asp	Val	Leu	Ala	Val	His	Leu	Leu	Leu	Lys	Glu	Ala	Gly	Ile	Gly	
					485					490						495	
	TTT	GCG	ATG	COG	GTT	GCT	COG	CTG	TTT	GAA	ACC	CTC	GAT	GAT	CTG	AAC	1772
10	Phe	Ala	Met	Pro	Val	Ala	Pro	Leu	Phe	Glu	Thr	Leu	Asp	Asp	Leu	Asn	
				500					505						510		
	AAC	GCC	AAC	GAT	GTC	ATG	ACC	CAG	CTG	CTC	AAT	ATT	GAC	TGG	TAT	CGT	1820
	Asn	Ala	Asn	Asp	Val	Met	Thr	Gln	Leu	Leu	Asn	Ile	Asp	Trp	Tyr	Arg	
			515					520					525				
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	Gly	Leu	Ile	Gln	Gly	Lys	Gln	Met	Val	Met	Ile	Gly	Tyr	Ser	Asp	Ser	
	530						535						540				
	GCA	AAA	GAT	GCG	GGA	GTG	ATG	GCA	GCT	TOC	TGG	GCG	CAA	TAT	CAG	GCA	1916
20	Ala	Lys	Asp	Ala	Gly	Val	Met	Ala	Ala	Ser	Trp	Ala	Gln	Tyr	Gln	Ala	
	545					550					555					560	
	CAG	GAT	GCA	TTA	ATC	AAA	ACC	TGC	GAA	AAA	GCG	GGT	ATT	GAG	CTG	ACG	1964
	Gln	Asp	Ala	Leu	Ile	Lys	Thr	Cys	Glu	Lys	Ala	Gly	Ile	Glu	Leu	Thr	
					565					570						575	
25	TTG	TTC	CAC	GGT	CGC	GGC	GGT	TOC	ATT	GGT	CGC	GGC	GGC	GCA	OCT	GCT	2012
	Leu	Phe	His	Gly	Arg	Gly	Gly	Ser	Ile	Gly	Arg	Gly	Gly	Ala	Pro	Ala	
				580					585						590		
	CAT	GCG	GCG	CTG	CTG	TCA	CAA	COG	OCA	GGA	AGC	CTG	AAA	GGC	GGC	CTG	2060
30	His	Ala	Ala	Leu	Leu	Ser	Gln	Pro	Pro	Gly	Ser	Leu	Lys	Gly	Gly	Leu	
			595					600						605			
	CGC	GTA	ACC	GAA	CAG	GGC	GAG	ATG	ATC	CGC	TTT	AAA	TAT	GGT	CTG	OCA	2108
	Arg	Val	Thr	Glu	Gln	Gly	Glu	Met	Ile	Arg	Phe	Lys	Tyr	Gly	Leu	Pro	
	610						615					620					
35	GAA	ATC	ACC	GTC	AGC	AGC	CTG	TCG	CTT	TAT	ACC	GGG	GCG	ATT	CTG	GAA	2156
	Glu	Ile	Thr	Val	Ser	Ser	Leu	Ser	Leu	Tyr	Thr	Gly	Ala	Ile	Leu	Glu	
	625						630					635				640	
	GCC	AAC	CTG	CTG	OCA	COG	COG	GAG	COG	AAA	GAG	AGC	TGG	CGT	CGC	ATT	2204
40	Ala	Asn	Leu	Leu	Pro	Pro	Pro	Glu	Pro	Lys	Glu	Ser	Trp	Arg	Arg	Ile	
					645					650					655		
	ATG	GAT	GAA	CTG	TCA	GTC	ATC	TCC	TGC	GAT	GTC	TAC	CGC	GGC	TAC	GTA	2252
	Met	Asp	Glu	Leu	Ser	Val	Ile	Ser	Cys	Asp	Val	Tyr	Arg	Gly	Tyr	Val	
					660					665					670		
45	CGT	GAA	AAC	AAA	GAT	TTT	GTG	OCT	TAC	TTC	CGC	TCC	GCT	ACG	COG	GAA	2300
	Arg	Glu	Asn	Lys	Asp	Phe	Val	Pro	Tyr	Phe	Arg	Ser	Ala	Thr	Pro	Glu	
			675					680					685				
	CAA	GAA	CTG	GGC	AAA	CTG	COG	TTG	GGT	TCA	CGT	COG	GCG	AAA	CGT	CGC	2348
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	OCA	AOC	GGC	GGC	GTC	GAG	TCA	CTA	OGC	GOC	ATT	COG	TGG	ATC	TTC	GOC	2396
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	Trp	Thr	Gln	Asn	Arg	Leu	Met	Leu	Pro	Ala	Trp	Leu	Gly	Ala	Gly	Thr	
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	Met	Val	Phe	Ala	Lys	Ala	Asp	Leu	Trp	Leu	Ala	Glu	Tyr	Tyr	Asp	Gln	
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20	OGC	CTG	GTA	GAC	AAA	GCA	CTG	TGG	COG	TTA	GGT	AAA	GAG	TTA	CGC	AAC	2636
	Arg	Leu	Val	Asp	Lys	Ala	Leu	Trp	Pro	Leu	Gly	Lys	Glu	Leu	Arg	Asn	
						790						795				800	
	CTG	CAA	GAA	GAA	GAC	ATC	AAA	GTG	GTG	CTG	GCG	ATT	GCC	AAC	GAT	TOC	2684
	Leu	Gln	Glu	Glu	Asp	Ile	Lys	Val	Val	Leu	Ala	Ile	Ala	Asn	Asp	Ser	
25					805						810					815	
	CAT	CTG	ATG	GOC	GAT	CTG	COG	TGG	ATT	GCA	GAG	TCT	ATT	CAG	CTA	COG	2732
	His	Leu	Met	Ala	Asp	Leu	Pro	Trp	Ile	Ala	Glu	Ser	Ile	Gln	Leu	Arg	
				820						825						830	
30	AAT	ATT	TAC	AOC	GAC	COG	CTG	AAC	GTA	TTG	CAG	GOC	GAG	TTG	CTG	CAC	2780
	Asn	Ile	Tyr	Thr	Asp	Pro	Leu	Asn	Val	Leu	Gln	Ala	Glu	Leu	Leu	His	
				835						840						845	
	OGC	TOC	OGC	CAG	GCA	GAA	AAA	GAA	GGC	CAG	GAA	COG	GAT	OCT	OGC	GTC	2828
	Arg	Ser	Arg	Gln	Ala	Glu	Lys	Glu	Gly	Gln	Glu	Pro	Asp	Pro	Arg	Val	
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	GAA	CAA	GCG	TTA	ATG	GTC	ACT	ATT	GOC	GGG	ATT	GCG	GCA	GGT	ATG	OGT	2876
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	Asn	Thr	Gly														
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	GAGACAATAA	CCCTGATAAA	TGCTTCAATA	ATATTGAAAA	AGGAAGAGTA	TGAGTATTCA											3225
	ACATTTCCGT	GTGCGCCTTA	TTCCCTTTTT	TGCGGCATTT	TGCTTCTCTG	TTTTTGCTCA											3285
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55																	

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(2) INFORMATION FOR SEQ ID NO:2:

(i) SEQUENCE CHARACTERISTICS:

(A) LENGTH: 883 amino acids

(B) TYPE: amino acid

(D) TOPOLOGY: linear

(ii) MOLECULE TYPE: protein

(xi) SEQUENCE DESCRIPTION: SEQ ID NO:2:

Met Asn Glu Gln Tyr Ser Ala Leu Arg Ser Asn Val Ser Met Leu Gly
 1 5 10 15
 Lys Val Leu Gly Glu Thr Ile Lys Asp Ala Leu Gly Glu His Ile Leu
 20 25 30
 Glu Arg Val Glu Thr Ile Arg Lys Leu Ser Lys Ser Ser Arg Ala Gly
 35 40 45
 Asn Asp Ala Asn Arg Gln Glu Leu Leu Thr Thr Leu Gln Asn Leu Ser
 50 55 60

	Asn	Asp	Glu	Leu	Leu	Pro	Val	Ala	Arg	Ala	Phe	Ser	Gln	Phe	Leu	Asn
	65					70					75					80
5	Leu	Ala	Asn	Thr	Ala	Glu	Gln	Tyr	His	Ser	Ile	Ser	Pro	Lys	Gly	Glu
					85					90					95	
	Ala	Ala	Ser	Asn	Pro	Glu	Val	Ile	Ala	Arg	Thr	Leu	Arg	Lys	Leu	Lys
				100					105					110		
10	Asn	Gln	Pro	Glu	Leu	Ser	Glu	Asp	Thr	Ile	Lys	Lys	Ala	Val	Glu	Ser
		115						120					125			
	Leu	Ser	Leu	Glu	Leu	Val	Leu	Thr	Ala	His	Pro	Thr	Glu	Ile	Thr	Arg
	130						135					140				
15	Arg	Thr	Leu	Ile	His	Lys	Met	Val	Glu	Val	Asn	Ala	Cys	Leu	Lys	Gln
	145					150					155					160
	Leu	Asp	Asn	Lys	Asp	Ile	Ala	Asp	Tyr	Glu	His	Asn	Gln	Leu	Met	Arg
				165					170						175	
20	Arg	Leu	Arg	Gln	Leu	Ile	Ala	Gln	Ser	Trp	His	Thr	Asp	Glu	Ile	Arg
				180					185					190		
	Lys	Leu	Arg	Pro	Ser	Pro	Val	Asp	Glu	Ala	Lys	Trp	Gly	Phe	Ala	Val
				195				200					205			
25	Val	Glu	Asn	Ser	Leu	Trp	Gln	Gly	Val	Pro	Asn	Tyr	Leu	Arg	Glu	Leu
	210						215					220				
	Asn	Glu	Gln	Leu	Glu	Glu	Asn	Leu	Gly	Tyr	Lys	Leu	Pro	Val	Glu	Phe
	225					230					235					240
	Val	Pro	Val	Arg	Phe	Thr	Ser	Trp	Met	Gly	Gly	Asp	Arg	Asp	Gly	Asn
				245					250						255	
30	Pro	Asn	Val	Thr	Ala	Asp	Ile	Thr	Arg	His	Val	Leu	Leu	Leu	Ser	Arg
				260					265					270		
	Trp	Lys	Ala	Thr	Asp	Leu	Phe	Leu	Lys	Asp	Ile	Gln	Val	Leu	Val	Ser
				275					280				285			
35	Glu	Leu	Ser	Met	Val	Glu	Ala	Thr	Pro	Glu	Leu	Leu	Ala	Leu	Val	Gly
	290						295					300				
	Glu	Glu	Gly	Ala	Ala	Glu	Pro	Tyr	Arg	Tyr	Leu	Met	Lys	Asn	Leu	Arg
	305					310					315					320
40	Ser	Arg	Leu	Met	Ala	Thr	Gln	Ala	Trp	Leu	Glu	Ala	Arg	Leu	Lys	Gly
				325						330					335	
	Glu	Glu	Leu	Pro	Lys	Pro	Glu	Gly	Leu	Leu	Thr	Gln	Asn	Glu	Glu	Leu
				340					345					350		
45	Trp	Glu	Pro	Leu	Tyr	Ala	Cys	Tyr	Gln	Ser	Leu	Gln	Ala	Cys	Gly	Met
		355						360					365			
	Gly	Ile	Ile	Ala	Asn	Gly	Asp	Leu	Leu	Asp	Thr	Leu	Arg	Arg	Val	Lys
	370					375					380					
50	Cys	Phe	Gly	Val	Pro	Leu	Val	Arg	Ile	Asp	Ile	Arg	Gln	Glu	Ser	Thr
	385					390					395					400
	Arg	His	Thr	Glu	Ala	Leu	Gly	Glu	Leu	Thr	Arg	Tyr	Leu	Gly	Ile	Gly
				405						410					415	
55	Asp	Tyr	Glu	Ser	Trp	Ser	Glu	Ala	Asp	Lys	Gln	Ala	Phe	Leu	Ile	Arg

				420					425					430		
	Glu	Leu	Asn	Ser	Lys	Arg	Pro	Leu	Leu	Pro	Arg	Asn	Trp	Gln	Pro	Ser
5			435					440					445			
	Ala	Glu	Thr	Arg	Glu	Val	Leu	Asp	Thr	Cys	Gln	Val	Ile	Ala	Glu	Ala
		450					455					460				
	Pro	Gln	Gly	Ser	Ile	Ala	Ala	Tyr	Val	Ile	Ser	Met	Ala	Lys	Thr	Pro
10	465				470					475					480	
	Ser	Asp	Val	Leu	Ala	Val	His	Leu	Leu	Leu	Lys	Glu	Ala	Gly	Ile	Gly
				485						490				495		
	Phe	Ala	Met	Pro	Val	Ala	Pro	Leu	Phe	Glu	Thr	Leu	Asp	Asp	Leu	Asn
15			500					505					510			
	Asn	Ala	Asn	Asp	Val	Met	Thr	Gln	Leu	Leu	Asn	Ile	Asp	Trp	Tyr	Arg
		515						520					525			
	Gly	Leu	Ile	Gln	Gly	Lys	Gln	Met	Val	Met	Ile	Gly	Tyr	Ser	Asp	Ser
20		530				535					540					
	Ala	Lys	Asp	Ala	Gly	Val	Met	Ala	Ala	Ser	Trp	Ala	Gln	Tyr	Gln	Ala
	545				550					555					560	
	Gln	Asp	Ala	Leu	Ile	Lys	Thr	Cys	Glu	Lys	Ala	Gly	Ile	Glu	Leu	Thr
				565					570					575		
25	Leu	Phe	His	Gly	Arg	Gly	Gly	Ser	Ile	Gly	Arg	Gly	Gly	Ala	Pro	Ala
			580					585						590		
	His	Ala	Ala	Leu	Leu	Ser	Gln	Pro	Pro	Gly	Ser	Leu	Lys	Gly	Gly	Leu
		595					600					605				
30	Arg	Val	Thr	Glu	Gln	Gly	Glu	Met	Ile	Arg	Phe	Lys	Tyr	Gly	Leu	Pro
		610				615					620					
	Glu	Ile	Thr	Val	Ser	Ser	Leu	Ser	Leu	Tyr	Thr	Gly	Ala	Ile	Leu	Glu
	625				630					635					640	
35	Ala	Asn	Leu	Leu	Pro	Pro	Pro	Glu	Pro	Lys	Glu	Ser	Trp	Arg	Arg	Ile
				645						650				655		
	Met	Asp	Glu	Leu	Ser	Val	Ile	Ser	Cys	Asp	Val	Tyr	Arg	Gly	Tyr	Val
		660						665					670			
40	Arg	Glu	Asn	Lys	Asp	Phe	Val	Pro	Tyr	Phe	Arg	Ser	Ala	Thr	Pro	Glu
		675				680						685				
	Gln	Glu	Leu	Gly	Lys	Leu	Pro	Leu	Gly	Ser	Arg	Pro	Ala	Lys	Arg	Arg
		690				695					700					
45	Pro	Thr	Gly	Gly	Val	Glu	Ser	Leu	Arg	Ala	Ile	Pro	Trp	Ile	Phe	Ala
	705				710					715					720	
	Trp	Thr	Gln	Asn	Arg	Leu	Met	Leu	Pro	Ala	Trp	Leu	Gly	Ala	Gly	Thr
				725						730				735		
	Ala	Leu	Gln	Lys	Val	Val	Glu	Asp	Gly	Lys	Gln	Ser	Glu	Leu	Glu	Ala
50			740					745					750			
	Met	Cys	Arg	Asp	Trp	Pro	Phe	Phe	Ser	Thr	Arg	Leu	Gly	Met	Leu	Glu
		755					760					765				
	Met	Val	Phe	Ala	Lys	Ala	Asp	Leu	Trp	Leu	Ala	Glu	Tyr	Tyr	Asp	Gln
55		770					775					780				

[illegible]

(2) INFORMATION FOR SEQ ID NO:3:

(i) SEQUENCE CHARACTERISTICS:

- (A) LENGTH: 23
(B) TYPE: nucleic acid
(C) STRANDEDNESS: single
(D) TOPOLOGY: linear

(ii) MOLECULAR TYPE: other..synthetic DNA

(iii) **HYPOTHETICAL: NO**

(xi) SEQUENCE DESCRIPTION: SEQ ID NO:3:

TOGOGAAGTA GCACCTGTCA CTT

23

(2) INFORMATION FOR SEQ ID NO:4:

(i) SEQUENCE CHARACTERISTICS:

- (A) LENGTH: 21
(B) TYPE: nucleic acid
(C) STRANDEDNESS: single
(D) TOPOLOGY: linear

(ii) MOLECULAR TYPE: Other..synthetic DNA

(iii) **HYPOTHETICAL: NO**

(xi) **SEQUENCE DESCRIPTION: SEQ ID NO:4:**

ACGGAATTCA ATCTTAAGGC C

21

(2) INFORMATION FOR SEQ ID NO:5:

(i) SEQUENCE CHARACTERISTICS:

- (A) LENGTH: 1643
(B) TYPE: nucleic acid
(C) STRANDEDNESS: double

(D) TOPOLOGY: linear

(ii) MOLECULAR TYPE: genomic DNA

(iii) HYPOTHETICAL: NO

(iv) ANTI-SENSE: NO

(vi) ORIGINAL SOURCE:

(A) ORGANISM: *Corynebacterium glutamicum*

(C) STRAIN: ATCC13869

(ix) FEATURE:

(A) NAME/KEY: mat peptide

(B) LOCATION: 217..1482

(xi) SEQUENCE DESCRIPTION: SEQ ID NO:5:

	TCGOGAAGTA	GCAOCTGTCA	CTTTTGTCTC	AAATATTAAA	TOGAATATCA	ATATACGGTC	60
	TGTTTTATTGG	AACGCATCC	AGTGGCTGAG	ACGCATCCGC	TAAAGCOCCA	GGAACCTGT	120
	GCAGAAAGAA	AACACTOCTC	TGGCTAGGTA	GACACAGTTT	ATAAAGGTAG	AGTTGAGCGG	180
5	GTA	ACTGTCA	GCACGTAGAT	CGAAAGGTGC	ACAAAG	GTG	234
					Met	Ala	
					1		
						5	
	AAA	TAT	GGC	GGT	TOC	TOG	282
10	Lys	Tyr	Gly	Gly	Ser	Ser	
			10			15	
						20	
	GCT	GAA	CGG	ATC	GTT	GOC	330
	Ala	Glu	Arg	Ile	Val	Ala	
			25			30	
						35	
15	GTC	TGC	TOC	GCA	ATG	GGA	378
	Val	Cys	Ser	Ala	Met	Gly	
			40			45	
						50	
	GCG	GCA	GTG	AAT	CCC	GTT	426
20	Ala	Ala	Val	Asn	Pro	Val	
			55			60	
						65	
						70	
	ACT	GCT	GGT	GAG	CGT	ATT	474
	Thr	Ala	Gly	Glu	Arg	Ile	
						75	
						80	
						85	
25	TOC	CTT	GGC	GCA	GAA	GCT	522
	Ser	Leu	Gly	Ala	Glu	Ala	
						90	
						95	
						100	
	CTC	ACC	AOC	GAG	CGC	CAC	570
30	Leu	Thr	Thr	Glu	Arg	His	
						105	
						110	
						115	
	GGT	CGT	GTG	CGT	GAA	GCA	618
	Gly	Arg	Val	Arg	Glu	Ala	
						120	
						125	
						130	
35	GGT	TTT	CAG	GGT	GTT	AAT	666
	Gly	Phe	Gln	Gly	Val	Asn	
						135	
						140	
						145	
						150	
	CGT	GGT	GGT	TCT	GAC	ACC	714
40	Arg	Gly	Gly	Ser	Asp	Thr	
						155	
						160	
						165	

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	GCT GAT GTG TGT GAG ATT TAC TCG GAC GTT GAC GGT GTG TAT ACC GCT	762
	Ala Asp Val Cys Glu Ile Tyr Ser Asp Val Asp Gly Val Tyr Thr Ala	
	170 175 180	
5	GAC CCG CGC ATC GTT CCT AAT GCA CAG AAG CTG GAA AAG CTC AGC TTC	810
	Asp Pro Arg Ile Val Pro Asn Ala Gln Lys Leu Glu Lys Leu Ser Phe	
	185 190 195	
10	GAA GAA ATG CTG GAA CTT GCT GCT GTT GGC TCC AAG ATT TTG GTG CTG	858
	Glu Glu Met Leu Glu Leu Ala Ala Val Gly Ser Lys Ile Leu Val Leu	
	200 205 210	
	CGC AGT GTT GAA TAC GCT CGT GCA TTC AAT GTG CCA CTT CGC GTA CGC	906
	Arg Ser Val Glu Tyr Ala Arg Ala Phe Asn Val Pro Leu Arg Val Arg	
	215 220 225 230	
15	TCG TCT TAT AGT AAT GAT CCC GGC ACT TTG ATT GCC GGC TCT ATG GAG	954
	Ser Ser Tyr Ser Asn Asp Pro Gly Thr Leu Ile Ala Gly Ser Met Glu	
	235 240 245	
20	GAT ATT OCT GTG GAA GAA GCA GTC CTT ACC GGT GTC GCA ACC GAC AAG	1002
	Asp Ile Pro Val Glu Glu Ala Val Leu Thr Gly Val Ala Thr Asp Lys	
	250 255 260	
	TOC GAA GCC AAA GTA ACC GTT CTG GGT ATT TOC GAT AAG CCA GGC GAG	1050
	Ser Glu Ala Lys Val Thr Val Leu Gly Ile Ser Asp Lys Pro Gly Glu	
	265 270 275	
25	GCT GCC AAG GTT TTC CGT GCG TTG GCT GAT GCA GAA ATC AAC ATT GAC	1098
	Ala Ala Lys Val Phe Arg Ala Leu Ala Asp Ala Glu Ile Asn Ile Asp	
	280 285 290	
30	ATG GTT CTG CAG AAC GTC TOC TCT GTG GAA GAC GGC ACC ACC GAC ATC	1146
	Met Val Leu Gln Asn Val Ser Ser Val Glu Asp Gly Thr Thr Asp Ile	
	295 300 305 310	
	ACG TTC ACC TGC OCT CGC GCT GAC GGA CGC CGT GCG ATG GAG ATC TTG	1194
	Thr Phe Thr Cys Pro Arg Ala Asp Gly Arg Arg Ala Met Glu Ile Leu	
	315 320 325	
35	AAG AAG CTT CAG GTT CAG GGC AAC TGG ACC AAT GTG CTT TAC GAC GAC	1242
	Lys Lys Leu Gln Val Gln Gly Asn Trp Thr Asn Val Leu Tyr Asp Asp	
	330 335 340	
40	CAG GTC GGC AAA GTC TOC CTC GTG GGT GCT GGC ATG AAG TCT CAC CCA	1290
	Gln Val Gly Lys Val Ser Leu Val Gly Ala Gly Met Lys Ser His Pro	
	345 350 355	
	GGT GTT ACC GCA GAG TTC ATG GAA GCT CTG CGC GAT GTC AAC GTG AAC	1338
	Gly Val Thr Ala Glu Phe Met Glu Ala Leu Arg Asp Val Asn Val Asn	
	360 365 370	
45	ATC GAA TTG ATT TOC ACC TCT GAG ATC CGC ATT TOC GTG CTG ATC CGT	1386
	Ile Glu Leu Ile Ser Thr Ser Glu Ile Arg Ile Ser Val Leu Ile Arg	
	375 380 385 390	
50	GAA GAT GAT CTG GAT GCT GCT GCA CGT GCA TTG CAT GAG CAG TTC CAG	1434
	Glu Asp Asp Leu Asp Ala Ala Ala Arg Ala Leu His Glu Gln Phe Gln	
	395 400 405	

	CTG GGC GGC GAA GAC GAA GGC GTC GTT TAT GCA GGC ACC GGA CGC TAA	1482
	Leu Gly Gly Glu Asp Glu Ala Val Val Tyr Ala Gly Thr Gly Arg	
	410 415 420	
5	AGTTTAAAG GAGTAGTTTT ACAATGACCA CCATCGCAGT TGTGGTGCA ACOGGCCAGG	1542
	TOGGCCAGGT TATGCGCACC CTTTGGGAAG AGOGCAATTT CCGAGCTGAC ACTGTTGGTT	1602
	TCTTTGCTTC CCGCGTTCC GCAGGCGTA AGATTGAATT C	1643

10 (2) INFORMATION FOR SEQ ID NO:6:

(i) SEQUENCE CHARACTERISTICS:

15 (A) LENGTH: 421 amino acids
(B) TYPE: amino acid
(D) TOPOLOGY: linear

(ii) MOLECULE TYPE: protein

20 (xi) SEQUENCE DESCRIPTION: SEQ ID NO:6:

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Met Ala Leu Val Val Gln Lys Tyr Gly Gly Ser Ser Leu Glu Ser Ala
 1 5 10 15
 Glu Arg Ile Arg Asn Val Ala Glu Arg Ile Val Ala Thr Lys Lys Ala
 5 20 25 30
 Gly Asn Asp Val Val Val Val Cys Ser Ala Met Gly Asp Thr Thr Asp
 35 40 45
 Glu Leu Leu Glu Leu Ala Ala Ala Val Asn Pro Val Pro Pro Ala Arg
 10 50 55 60
 Glu Met Asp Met Leu Leu Thr Ala Gly Glu Arg Ile Ser Asn Ala Leu
 65 70 75 80
 Val Ala Met Ala Ile Glu Ser Leu Gly Ala Glu Ala Gln Ser Phe Thr
 15 85 90 95
 Gly Ser Gln Ala Gly Val Leu Thr Thr Glu Arg His Gly Asn Ala Arg
 100 105 110
 Ile Val Asp Val Thr Pro Gly Arg Val Arg Glu Ala Leu Asp Glu Gly
 20 115 120 125
 Lys Ile Cys Ile Val Ala Gly Phe Gln Gly Val Asn Lys Glu Thr Arg
 130 135 140
 Asp Val Thr Thr Leu Gly Arg Gly Gly Ser Asp Thr Thr Ala Val Ala
 25 145 150 155 160
 Leu Ala Ala Ala Leu Asn Ala Asp Val Cys Glu Ile Tyr Ser Asp Val
 165 170 175
 Asp Gly Val Tyr Thr Ala Asp Pro Arg Ile Val Pro Asn Ala Gln Lys
 30 180 185 190
 Leu Glu Lys Leu Ser Phe Glu Glu Met Leu Glu Leu Ala Ala Val Gly
 195 200 205
 Ser Lys Ile Leu Val Leu Arg Ser Val Glu Tyr Ala Arg Ala Phe Asn
 210 215 220
 35 Val Pro Leu Arg Val Arg Ser Ser Tyr Ser Asn Asp Pro Gly Thr Leu
 225 230 235 240

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Ile Ala Gly Ser Met Glu Asp Ile Pro Val Glu Glu Ala Val Leu Thr
 245 250 255
 5 Gly Val Ala Thr Asp Lys Ser Glu Ala Lys Val Thr Val Leu Gly Ile
 260 265 270
 Ser Asp Lys Pro Gly Glu Ala Ala Lys Val Phe Arg Ala Leu Ala Asp
 275 280 285
 10 Ala Glu Ile Asn Ile Asp Met Val Leu Gln Asn Val Ser Ser Val Glu
 290 295 300
 Asp Gly Thr Thr Asp Ile Thr Phe Thr Cys Pro Arg Ala Asp Gly Arg
 305 310 315 320
 Arg Ala Met Glu Ile Leu Lys Lys Leu Gln Val Gln Gly Asn Trp Thr
 15 325 330 335
 Asn Val Leu Tyr Asp Asp Gln Val Gly Lys Val Ser Leu Val Gly Ala
 340 345 350
 Gly Met Lys Ser His Pro Gly Val Thr Ala Glu Phe Met Glu Ala Leu
 20 355 360 365
 Arg Asp Val Asn Val Asn Ile Glu Leu Ile Ser Thr Ser Glu Ile Arg
 370 375 380
 Ile Ser Val Leu Ile Arg Glu Asp Asp Leu Asp Ala Ala Ala Arg Ala
 385 390 395 400
 25 Leu His Glu Gln Phe Gln Leu Gly Gly Glu Asp Glu Ala Val Val Tyr
 405 410 415
 Ala Gly Thr Gly Arg
 420

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(2) INFORMATION FOR SEQ ID NO:7:

(i) SEQUENCE CHARACTERISTICS:

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- (A) LENGTH: 1643
- (B) TYPE: nucleic acid
- (C) STRANDEDNESS: double
- (D) TOPOLOGY: linear

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- (ii) MOLECULAR TYPE: genomic DNA
- (iii) HYPOTHETICAL: NO
- (iv) ANTI-SENSE: NO
- (vi) ORIGINAL SOURCE:

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- (A) ORGANISM: *Corynebacterium glutamicum*
- (C) STRAIN: ATCC13869

(ix) FEATURE:

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- (A) NAME/KEY: mat peptide
- (B) LOCATION: 964..1482

(xi) SEQUENCE DESCRIPTION: SEQ ID NO:7:

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EP 0 723 011 B1

	TOGOGAAGTA	GCACTGTCA	CTTTTGTCTC	AAATATTAAA	TOGAATATCA	ATATACGGTC	60
	TGTTTATTGG	AAGCATOOC	AGTGGCTGAG	AOGCATCCGC	TAAAGOOCCA	GGAACCOCTGT	120
	GCAGAAAGAA	AACACTOCTC	TGGCTAGGTA	GACACAGTTT	ATAAAGGTAG	AGTTGAGCGG	180
5	GTAACGTGCA	GCACTAGAT	CGAAAGGTGC	ACAAAGGTGG	COCTGGTCGT	ACAGAAATAT	240
10							
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	GGCGGTTCTCT	CGCTTGAGAG	TGCGGAACGC	ATTAGAAAACG	TCGCTGAACG	GATCGTTGOC	300										
	ACCAAGAAGG	CTGGAAATGA	TGTOGTGGTT	GTCTGCTCCG	CAATGGGAGA	CACCACGGAT	360										
5	GAACCTTCTAG	AACCTGCAGC	GGCAGTGAAT	CCCGTTCCGC	CAGCTCGTGA	AATGGATATG	420										
	CTOCTGACTG	CTGGTGAGCG	TATTTCTAAC	GCTCTCGTCG	CCATGGCTAT	TGAGTCCCTT	480										
	GGCGCAGAAG	CTCAATCTTT	CACTGGCTCT	CAGGCTGGTG	TGCTCAACCAC	CGAGCGCCAC	540										
	GGAAACGCAC	GCATTGTTGA	CGTCACACCG	GGTCGTGTGC	GTGAAGCACT	CGATGAGGGC	600										
	AAGATCTGCA	TTGTTGCTGG	TTTTCAGGGT	GTTAATAAAG	AAACCCGCGA	TGTCAACACG	660										
10	TTGGGTGCTG	GTGGTTCCTGA	CACCACTGCA	GTTGCGTTGG	CAGCTGCTTT	GAACGCTGAT	720										
	GTGTGTGAGA	TTTACTCGGA	CGTTGAOGGT	GTGTATACCG	CTGAOCCGCG	CATCGTTCTCT	780										
	AATGCACAGA	AGCTGGAAAA	GCTCAGCTTC	GAAGAAATGC	TGGAACCTGC	TGCTGTTGGC	840										
	TOCAAGATTT	TGGTGCTGCG	CAGTGTTGAA	TACGCTCGTG	CATTCAATGT	GCCACTTCGC	900										
15	GTAOGCTCGT	CTTATAGTAA	TGATCCOGGC	ACTTTGATTG	COGGCTCTAT	GGAGGATATT	960										
	OCT	GTG	GAA	GAA	GCA	GTC	CTT	ACC	GGT	GTC	GCA	ACC	GAC	AAG	TOC	GAA	1008
	Met Glu Glu Ala Val Leu Thr Gly Val Ala Thr Asp Lys Ser Glu																
	1					5										10	
	GCC	AAA	GTA	ACC	GTT	CTG	GGT	ATT	TOC	GAT	AAG	CCA	GGC	GAG	GCT	GCC	1056
20	Ala	Lys	Val	Thr	Val	Leu	Gly	Ile	Ser	Asp	Lys	Pro	Gly	Glu	Ala	Ala	
						20										25	
	AAG	GTT	TTC	CGT	GCG	TTG	GCT	GAT	GCA	GAA	ATC	AAC	ATT	GAC	ATG	GTT	1104
	Lys	Val	Phe	Arg	Ala	Leu	Ala	Asp	Ala	Glu	Ile	Asn	Ile	Asp	Met	Val	
25						35										40	
	CTG	CAG	AAC	GTC	TOC	TCT	GTG	GAA	GAC	GGC	ACC	ACC	GAC	ATC	ACG	TTC	1152
	Leu	Gln	Asn	Val	Ser	Ser	Val	Glu	Asp	Gly	Thr	Thr	Asp	Ile	Thr	Phe	
						50										55	
30	ACC	TGC	CCT	CGC	GCT	GAC	GGA	CGC	CGT	GCG	ATG	GAG	ATC	TTG	AAG	AAG	1200
	Thr	Cys	Pro	Arg	Ala	Asp	Gly	Arg	Arg	Ala	Met	Glu	Ile	Leu	Lys	Lys	
						65										70	
	CTT	CAG	GTT	CAG	GGC	AAC	TGG	ACC	AAT	GTG	CTT	TAC	GAC	GAC	CAG	GTC	1248
	Leu	Gln	Val	Gln	Gly	Asn	Trp	Thr	Asn	Val	Leu	Tyr	Asp	Asp	Gln	Val	
35	80															85	
	GGC	AAA	GTC	TOC	CTC	GTG	GGT	GCT	GGC	ATG	AAG	TCT	CAC	CCA	GGT	GTT	1296
	Gly	Lys	Val	Ser	Leu	Val	Gly	Ala	Gly	Met	Lys	Ser	His	Pro	Gly	Val	
						100										105	
40	ACC	GCA	GAG	TTC	ATG	GAA	GCT	CTG	CGC	GAT	GTC	AAC	GTG	AAC	ATC	GAA	1344
	Thr	Ala	Glu	Phe	Met	Glu	Ala	Leu	Arg	Asp	Val	Asn	Val	Asn	Ile	Glu	
						115										120	
	TTG	ATT	TOC	ACC	TCT	GAG	ATC	CGC	ATT	TOC	GTG	CTG	ATC	CGT	GAA	GAT	1392
	Leu	Ile	Ser	Thr	Ser	Glu	Ile	Arg	Ile	Ser	Val	Leu	Ile	Arg	Glu	Asp	
45						130										135	
	GAT	CTG	GAT	GCT	GCT	GCA	CGT	GCA	TTG	CAT	GAG	CAG	TTC	CAG	CTG	GGC	1440
	Asp	Leu	Asp	Ala	Ala	Ala	Arg	Ala	Leu	His	Glu	Gln	Phe	Gln	Leu	Gly	
						145										150	
50	GGC	GAA	GAC	GAA	GCC	GTC	GTT	TAT	GCA	GGC	ACC	GGA	CGC	TAAAGTTTTAA			1490
	Gly	Glu	Asp	Glu	Ala	Val	Val	Tyr	Ala	Gly	Thr	Gly	Arg				
	160						165					170	172				

AGGAGTAGTT TTACAATGAC CACCATGCGA GTTGTGGTG CAACGGGCGA GGTGGGCGAG 1550
 GTTATGGCGA CCTTTTGGG AGAGGGCAAT TTCCAGCTG AACTGTTCG TTCTTTGCT 1610
 TCCCGCGTT CGCAGGCGG TAAGATTGAA TTC 1643

(2) INFORMATION FOR SEQ ID NO:8:

(i) SEQUENCE CHARACTERISTICS:

- (A) LENGTH: 172 amino acids
 (B) TYPE: amino acid
 (D) TOPOLOGY: linear

(ii) MOLECULE TYPE: protein

(xi) SEQUENCE DESCRIPTION: SEQ ID NO:8:

Met Glu Glu Ala Val Leu Thr Gly Val Ala Thr Asp Lys Ser Glu Ala
 1 5 10 15
 Lys Val Thr Val Leu Gly Ile Ser Asp Lys Pro Gly Glu Ala Ala Lys
 20 25 30
 Val Phe Arg Ala Leu Ala Asp Ala Glu Ile Asn Ile Asp Met Val Leu
 35 40 45
 Gln Asn Val Ser Ser Val Glu Asp Gly Thr Thr Asp Ile Thr Phe Thr
 50 55 60
 Cys Pro Arg Ala Asp Gly Arg Arg Ala Met Glu Ile Leu Lys Lys Leu
 65 70 75 80
 Gln Val Gln Gly Asn Trp Thr Asn Val Leu Tyr Asp Asp Gln Val Gly
 85 90 95
 Lys Val Ser Leu Val Gly Ala Gly Met Lys Ser His Pro Gly Val Thr
 100 105 110
 Ala Glu Phe Met Glu Ala Leu Arg Asp Val Asn Val Asn Ile Glu Leu
 115 120 125
 Ile Ser Thr Ser Glu Ile Arg Ile Ser Val Leu Ile Arg Glu Asp Asp
 130 135 140
 Leu Asp Ala Ala Ala Arg Ala Leu His Glu Gln Phe Gln Leu Gly Gly
 145 150 155 160
 Glu Asp Glu Ala Val Val Tyr Ala Gly Thr Gly Arg
 165 170

Claims

1. A mutant phosphoenolpyruvate carboxylase originating from a microorganism belonging to the genus *Escherichia* and being desensitised in its feedback inhibition by aspartic acid, wherein said mutant phosphoenolpyruvate carboxylase is resistant to a compound selected from 3-bromopyruvate, aspartic acid- β -hydrazide and DL-threo- β -hydroxyaspartic acid.
2. A mutant phosphoenolpyruvate carboxylase according to claim 1, wherein 625th glutamic acid is replaced with lysine as counted from the N-terminus of the phosphoenolpyruvate carboxylase.
3. A mutant phosphoenolpyruvate carboxylase according to claim 1, wherein 222th arginine is replaced with histidine and 223th glutamic acid is replaced with lysine, respectively, as counted from the N-terminus of the phosphoe-

phosphoenolpyruvate carboxylase.

4. A mutant phosphoenolpyruvate carboxylase according to claim 1, wherein 288th serine is replaced with phenylalanine, 289th glutamic acid is replaced with lysine, 551th methionine is replaced with isoleucine and 804th glutamic acid is replaced with lysine, respectively, as counted from the N-terminus of the phosphoenolpyruvate carboxylase.
5. A mutant phosphoenolpyruvate carboxylase according to claim 1, wherein 867th alanine is replaced with threonine as counted from the N-terminus of the phosphoenolpyruvate carboxylase.
6. A DNA fragment which codes for the mutant phosphoenolpyruvate carboxylase according to any one of claims 1 to 5.
7. A microorganism having the accession number FERM BP-4734.
8. A microorganism having the accession number FERM BP-4735.
9. A microorganism having the accession number FERM BP-4736.
10. A microorganism having the accession number FERM BP-4737.
11. A microorganism belonging to the genus *Escherichia* or coryneform bacteria, transformed by allowing the DNA fragment according to claim 6 to be integrated in chromosomal DNA.
12. A recombinant DNA formed by ligating the DNA fragment according to claim 6 with a vector DNA capable of autonomously replication in cells of bacteria belonging to the genus *Escherichia* or coryneform bacteria.
13. A microorganism belonging to the genus *Escherichia* or coryneform bacteria, transformed with the recombinant DNA according to claim 12.
14. A method of selecting *E. coli* which produces a mutant phosphoenolpyruvate carboxylase having a mutation to desensitise feedback inhibition of the phosphoenolpyruvate carboxylase by aspartic acid, comprising the step of culturing said *E. coli* in the presence of a compound selected from 3-bromopyruvate, aspartic acid- β -hydrazide and DL-threo- β -hydroxyaspartic acid.
15. A method according to claim 14, wherein said mutant phosphoenolpyruvate carboxylase is one according to any one of claims 1 to 5.
16. A method of producing a mutant phosphoenolpyruvate carboxylase, comprising the step of isolating a phosphoenolpyruvate carboxylase from *E. coli* selected by the method according to claim 14.
17. A method of producing a DNA fragment which codes for a mutant phosphoenolpyruvate carboxylase, comprising the step of isolating a DNA fragment which codes for a mutant phosphoenolpyruvate carboxylase from *E. coli* selected by the method according to claim 14.
18. A method of producing a microorganism having a mutant phosphoenolpyruvate carboxylase, comprising the step of introducing a DNA fragment produced by the method according to claim 17 into a microorganism belonging to the genus *Escherichia* or coryneform bacteria.
19. A method of producing an amino acid, comprising the steps of:
 - cultivating a microorganism according to any one of the claims 7 to 11 or as obtained in the method according to claim 18, in a suitable medium; and,
 - separating, from the medium; an amino acid selected from the group consisting of L-lysine, L-threonine, L-methionine, L-isoleucine, L-glutamic acid, L-arginine and L-proline.

Patentansprüche

1. Variante von Phosphoenolpyruvatcarboxylase, die aus einem zur Gattung *Escherichia* gehörenden Mikroorganismus stammt und unempfindlich gegen Rückkopplungshemmung durch Asparaginsäure ist, wobei die Variante von Phosphoenolpyruvatcarboxylase gegen eine Verbindung resistent ist, die unter 3-Brompyruvat, Asparaginsäure- β -hydrazid und DL-Threo- β -hydroxyasparaginsäure ausgewählt ist.
2. Variante von Phosphoenolpyruvatcarboxylase nach Anspruch 1, worin die Glutaminsäure 625, gezählt vom N-Terminus der Phosphoenolpyruvatcarboxylase, durch Lysin ersetzt ist.
3. Variante von Phosphoenolpyruvatcarboxylase nach Anspruch 1, worin Arginin 222 und Glutaminsäure 223, gezählt vom N-Terminus der Phosphoenolpyruvatcarboxylase, durch Histidin bzw. Lysin ersetzt sind.
4. Variante von Phosphoenolpyruvatcarboxylase nach Anspruch 1, worin Serin 288 durch Phenylalanin, Glutaminsäure 289 durch Lysin, Methionin 551 durch Isoleucin bzw. Glutaminsäure 804 durch Lysin ersetzt ist, jeweils gezählt vom N-Terminus der Phosphoenolpyruvatcarboxylase.
5. Variante von Phosphoenolpyruvatcarboxylase nach Anspruch 1, worin Alanin 867, gezählt vom N-Terminus der Phosphoenolpyruvatcarboxylase, durch Threonin ersetzt ist.
6. DNA-Fragment, das für eine Variante von Phosphoenolpyruvatcarboxylase nach einem der Ansprüche 1 bis 5 kodiert.
7. Mikroorganismus mit der Hinterlegungsnummer FERM BP-4734.
8. Mikroorganismus mit der Hinterlegungsnummer FERM BP-4735.
9. Mikroorganismus mit der Hinterlegungsnummer FERM BP-4736.
10. Mikroorganismus mit der Hinterlegungsnummer FERM BP-4737.
11. Mikroorganismus der Gattung *Escherichia* oder coryneforme Bakterien, transformiert durch Einverleibung des DNA-Fragments nach Anspruch 6 in chromosomale DNA.
12. Rekombinante DNA, gebildet durch Ligieren des DNA-Fragments nach Anspruch 6 mit einer Vektor-DNA, die in Zellen der Gattung *Escherichia* oder coryneforme Bakterien autonom replizieren kann.
13. Mikroorganismus der Gattung *Escherichia* oder coryneforme Bakterien, transformiert mit der rekombinanten DNA nach Anspruch 12.
14. Verfahren zum Selektieren von *E. coli*, welche eine Mutante von Phosphoenolpyruvatcarboxylase mit einer Mutation produzieren, die dazu führt, daß die Phosphoenolpyruvatcarboxylase unempfindlich gegen Rückkopplungshemmung durch Asparaginsäure wird, wobei das Verfahren das Kultivieren der *E. coli* in Anwesenheit einer Verbindung umfaßt, die unter 3-Brompyruvat, Asparaginsäure- β -hydrazid und DL-Threo- β -hydroxyasparaginsäure ausgewählt ist.
15. Verfahren nach Anspruch 14, wobei die Variante von Phosphoenolpyruvatcarboxylase eine Variante nach einem der Ansprüche 1 bis 5 ist.
16. Verfahren zur Herstellung einer Variante von Phosphoenolpyruvatcarboxylase, welches das Isolieren einer Phosphoenolpyruvatcarboxylase aus *E. coli*, ausgewählt durch das Verfahren nach Anspruch 14, umfaßt.
17. Verfahren zur Herstellung eines DNA-Fragments, das für eine Variante von Phosphoenolpyruvatcarboxylase kodiert, welches das Isolieren eines DNA-Fragments umfaßt, das für eine Variante von Phosphoenolpyruvatcarboxylase aus *E. coli*, ausgewählt durch das Verfahren nach Anspruch 14, kodiert.
18. Verfahren zur Herstellung eines Mikroorganismus mit einer Variante von Phosphoenolpyruvatcarboxylase, welches das Einführen eines DNA-Fragments, hergestellt durch das Verfahren nach Anspruch 17, in einen Mikroor-

ganismus der Gattung *Escherichia* oder coryneforme Bakterien umfaßt.

19. Verfahren zur Herstellung einer Aminosäure, welches die folgenden Stufen umfaßt:

Kultivieren eines Mikroorganismus nach einem der Ansprüche 7 bis 11 oder eines Mikroorganismus, der nach dem Verfahren gemäß Anspruch 18 erhalten wird, in einem geeigneten Medium und Abtrennen einer Aminosäure, die aus der aus L-Lysin, L-Threonin, L-Methionin, L-Isoleucin, L-Glutaminsäure, L-Arginin und L-Prolin bestehenden Gruppe ausgewählt ist, aus dem Medium.

Revendications

1. Phosphoénolpyruvate carboxylase mutante issue d'un micro-organisme appartenant au genre *Escherichia* et désensibilisée concernant sa rétro-inhibition par l'acide aspartique, où ladite phosphoénolpyruvate carboxylase mutante est résistante à un composé choisi parmi le 3-bromopyruvate, le β -hydrazide de l'acide aspartique et l'acide DL-thréo- β -hydroxyaspartique.
2. Phosphoénolpyruvate carboxylase mutante selon la revendication 1, où le 625^{ème} acide glutamique, compté à partir de l'extrémité N-terminale de la phosphoénolpyruvate carboxylase, est remplacé par la lysine.
3. Phosphoénolpyruvate carboxylase mutante selon la revendication 1, où la 222^{ème} arginine et le 223^{ème} acide glutamique, comptés à partir de l'extrémité N-terminale de la phosphoénolpyruvate carboxylase, sont remplacés respectivement par l'histidine et la lysine.
4. Phosphoénolpyruvate carboxylase mutante selon la revendication 1, où la 288^{ème} sérine, le 289^{ème} acide glutamique, la 551^{ème} méthionine et le 804^{ème} acide glutamique, comptés à partir de l'extrémité N-terminale de la phosphoénolpyruvate carboxylase, sont remplacés respectivement par la phénylalanine, la lysine, l'isoleucine et la lysine.
5. Phosphoénolpyruvate carboxylase mutante selon la revendication 1, où la 867^{ème} alanine, comptée à partir de l'extrémité N-terminale de la phosphoénolpyruvate carboxylase, est remplacée par la thréonine.
6. fragment d'ADN qui code la phosphoénolpyruvate carboxylase mutante selon l'une quelconque des revendications 1 à 5.
7. Micro-organisme ayant le numéro d'ordre FERM BP-4734.
8. Micro-organisme ayant le numéro d'ordre FERM BP-4735.
9. Micro-organisme ayant le numéro d'ordre FERM BP-4736.
10. Micro-organisme ayant le numéro d'ordre FERM BP-4737.
11. Micro-organisme appartenant au genre *Escherichia* ou des bactéries corynéformes, transformé par intégration dans l'ADN chromosomique du fragment d'ADN selon la revendication 6.
12. ADN recombiné formé par ligature du fragment d'ADN selon la revendication 6 avec un ADN vecteur capable de répllication autonome dans des cellules de bactéries appartenant au genre *Escherichia* ou des bactéries corynéformes.
13. Micro-organisme appartenant au genre *Escherichia* ou des bactéries corynéformes transformé avec l'ADN recombiné selon la revendication 12.
14. Procédé de sélection de *E. coli* qui produit une phosphoénolpyruvate carboxylase mutante ayant une mutation pour désactiver la rétroinhibition de la phosphoénolpyruvate carboxylase par l'acide aspartique, comprenant l'étape de culture dudit *E. coli* en présence d'un composé choisi parmi le 3-bromopyruvate, le β -hydrazide d'acide aspartique et l'acide DL-thréo- β -hydroxyaspartique.

15. Procédé selon la revendication 14, où ladite phosphoénolpyruvate carboxylase mutante est une phosphoénolpyruvate carboxylase mutante selon l'une quelconque des revendications 1 à 5.

5 16. Procédé de production d'une phosphoénolpyruvate carboxylase mutante comprenant l'étape d'isolement d'une phosphoénolpyruvate carboxylase à partir de *E. coli* sélectionné par le procédé selon la revendication 14.

10 17. Procédé de production d'un fragment d'ADN qui code une phosphoénolpyruvate carboxylase mutante, comprenant l'étape d'isolement d'un fragment d'ADN qui code une phosphoénolpyruvate carboxylase mutante à partir de *E. coli* sélectionné par le procédé selon la revendication 14.

18. Procédé de production d'un micro-organisme ayant une phosphoénolpyruvate carboxylase mutante comprenant l'étape d'introduction d'un fragment d'ADN produit par le procédé selon la revendication 17 dans un micro-organisme appartenant au genre *Escherichia* ou des bactéries corynéformes.

15 19. Procédé de production d'un acide aminé comprenant les étapes de :

culture d'un micro-organisme selon l'une quelconque des revendications 7 à 11 ou obtenu dans le procédé selon la revendication 18, dans un milieu approprié ; et
séparation à partir du milieu d'un acide aminé choisi dans le groupe consistant en la L-lysine, la L-thréonine, la L-méthionine, la L-isoleucine, l'acide L-glutamique, la L-arginine et la L-proline.

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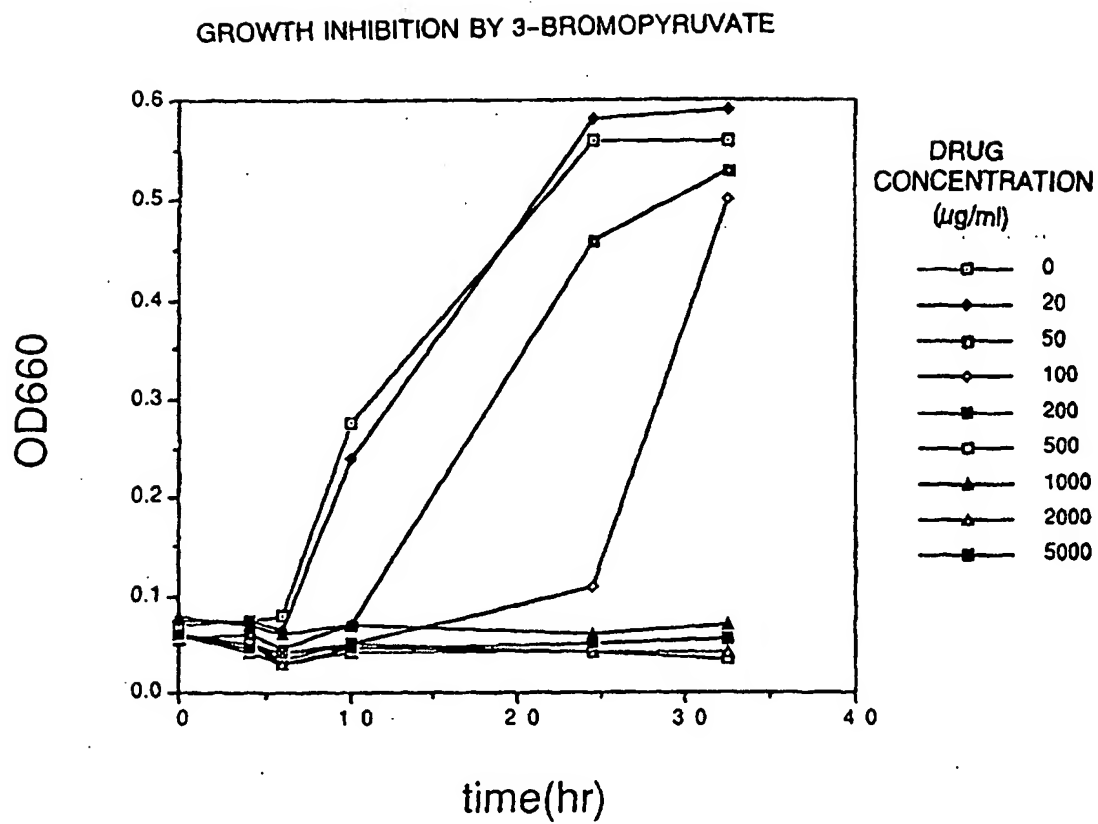


Fig. 1

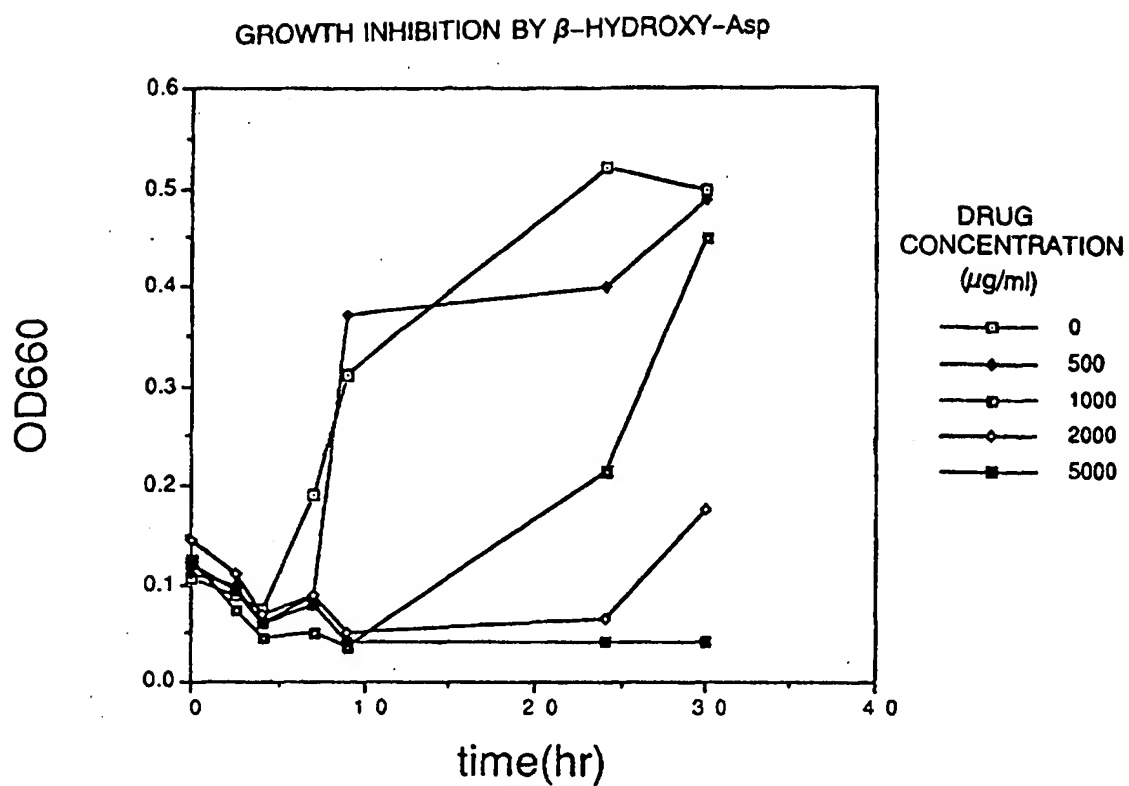


Fig. 2

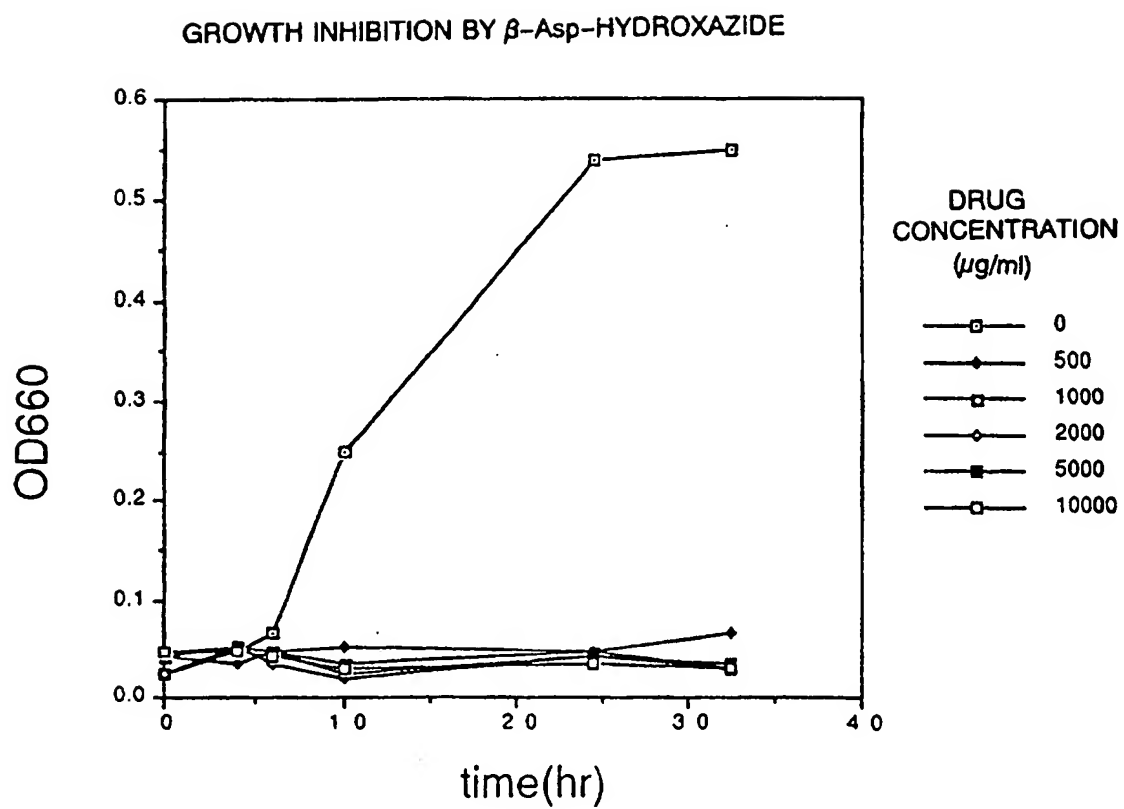


Fig. 3

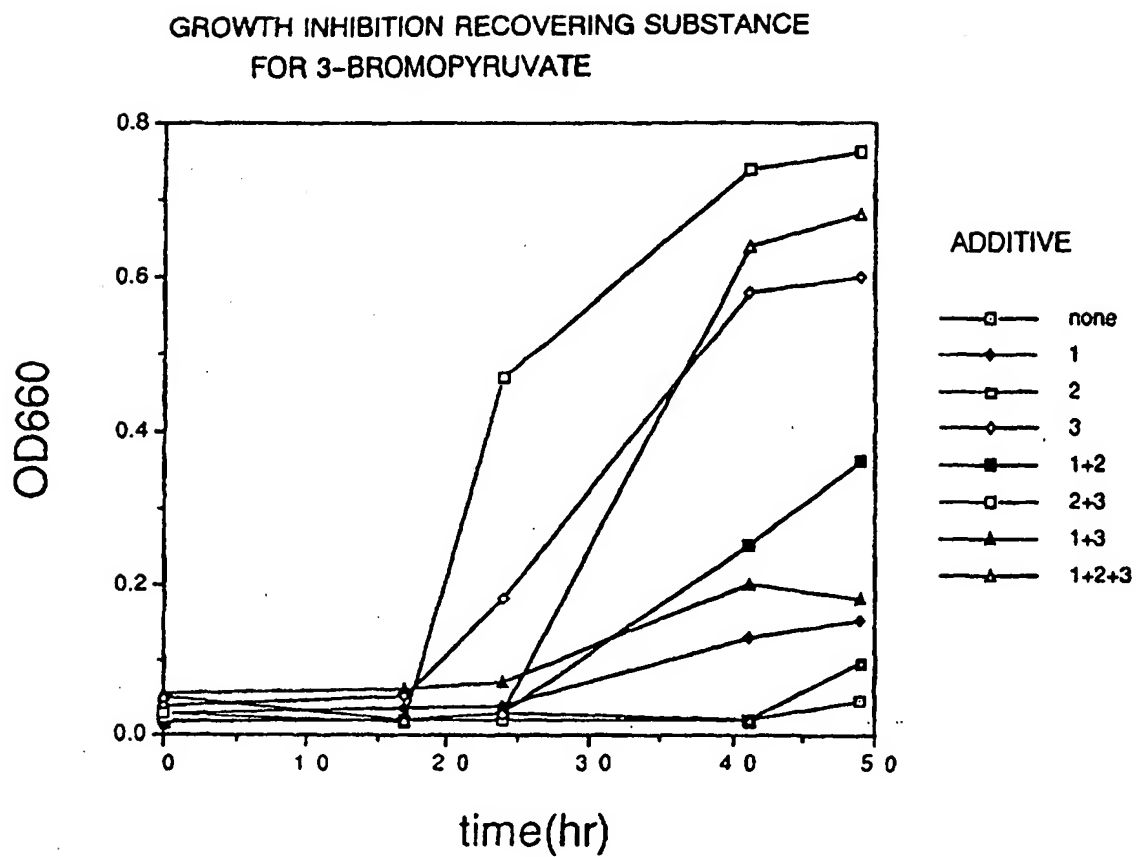


Fig. 4

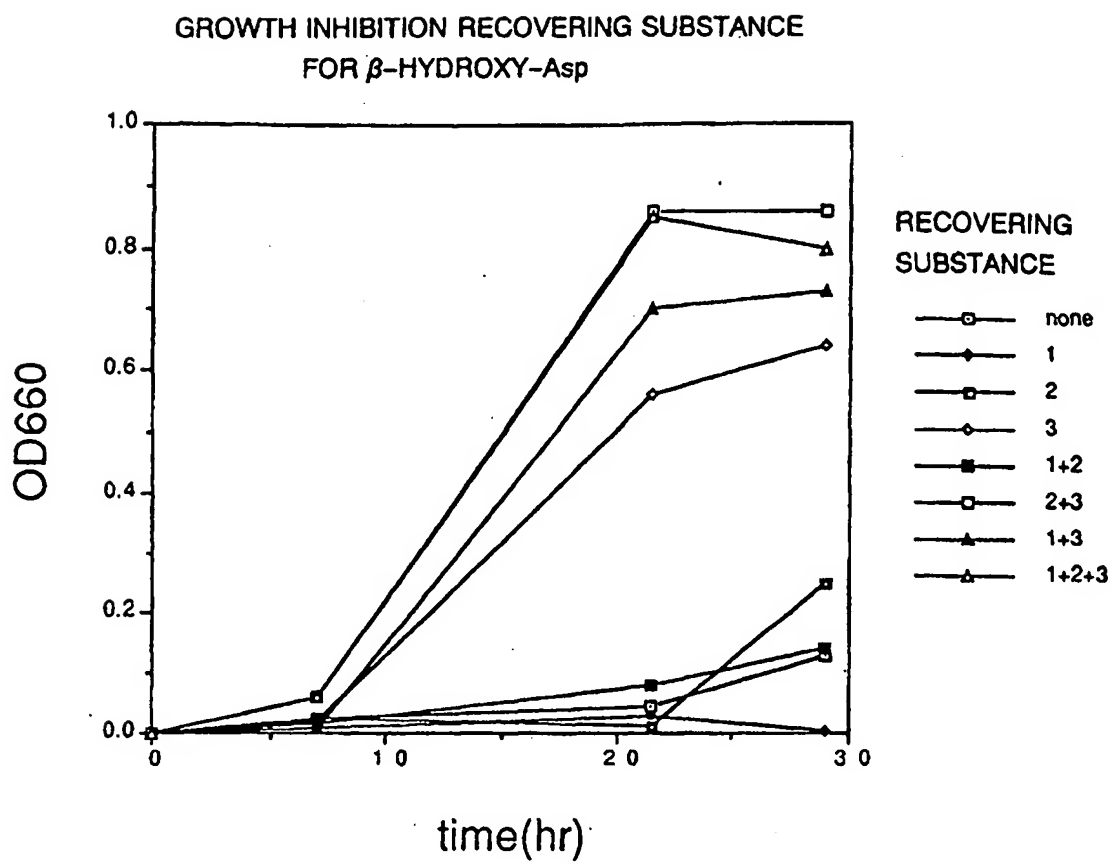


Fig. 5

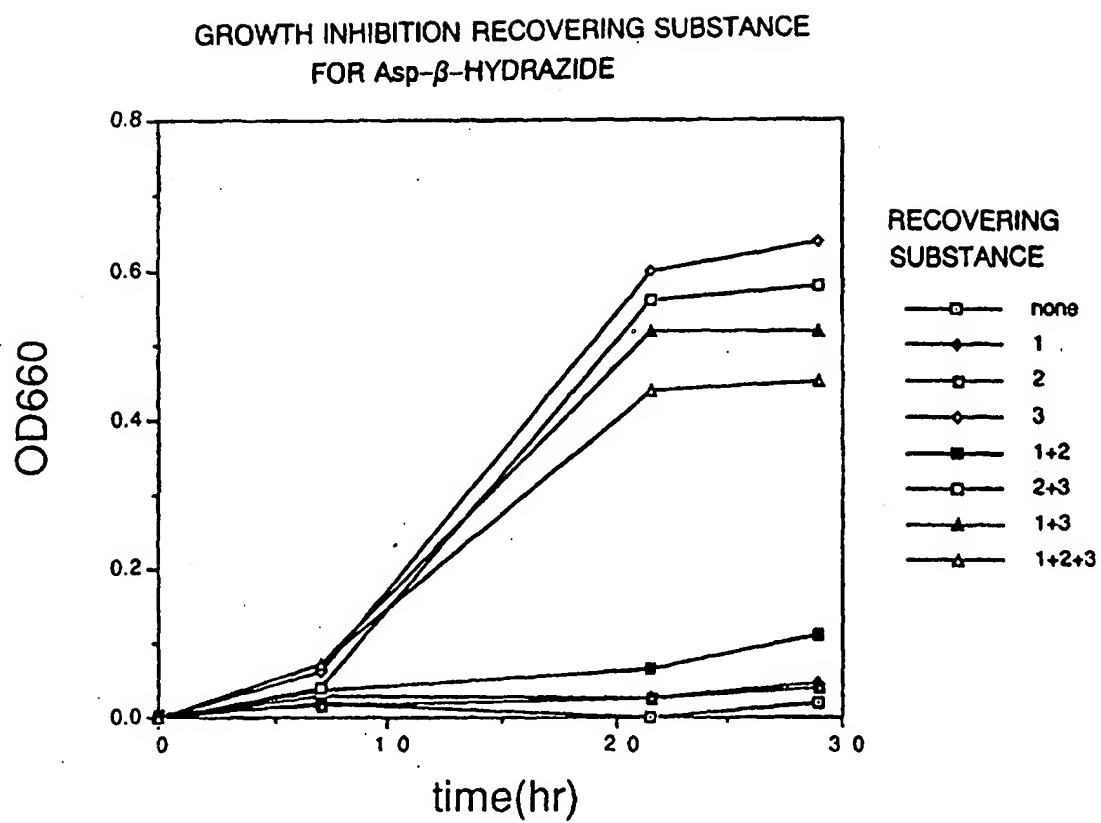


Fig. 6

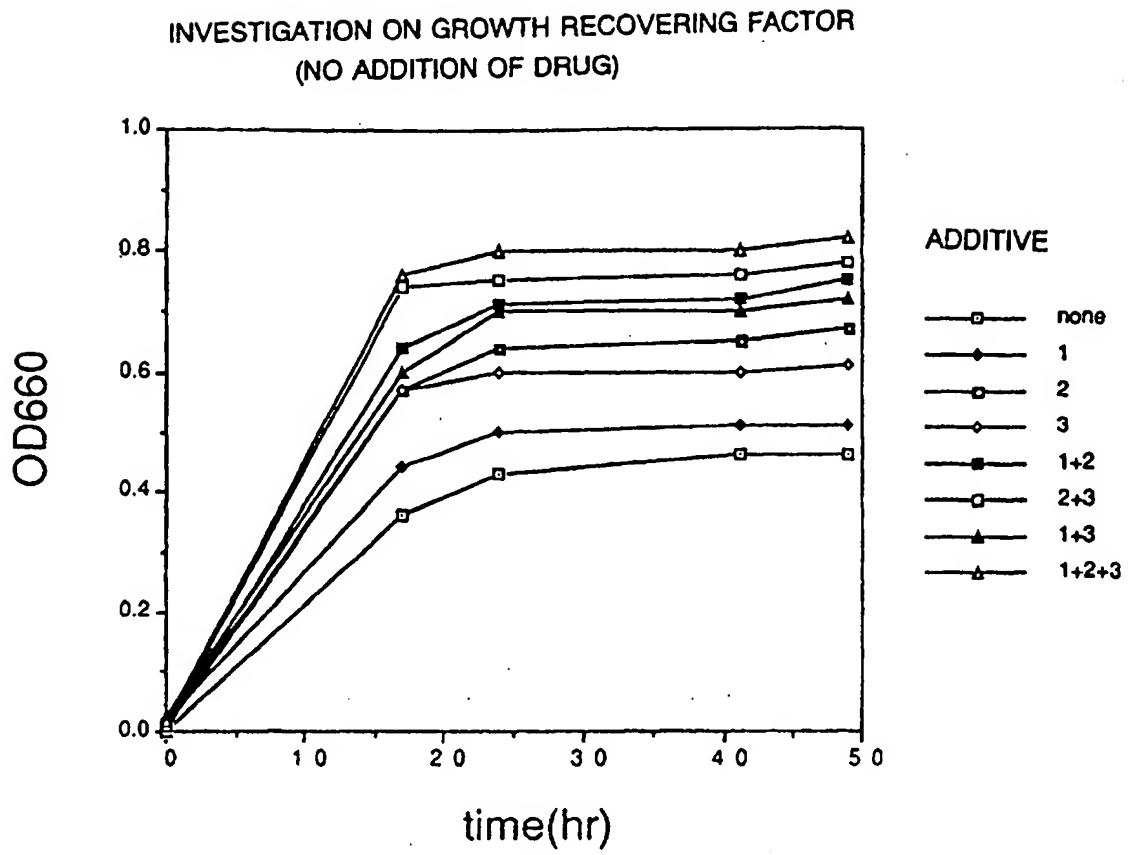


Fig. 7

INHIBITION OF PEPC ACTIVITY BY SELECTED DRUGS

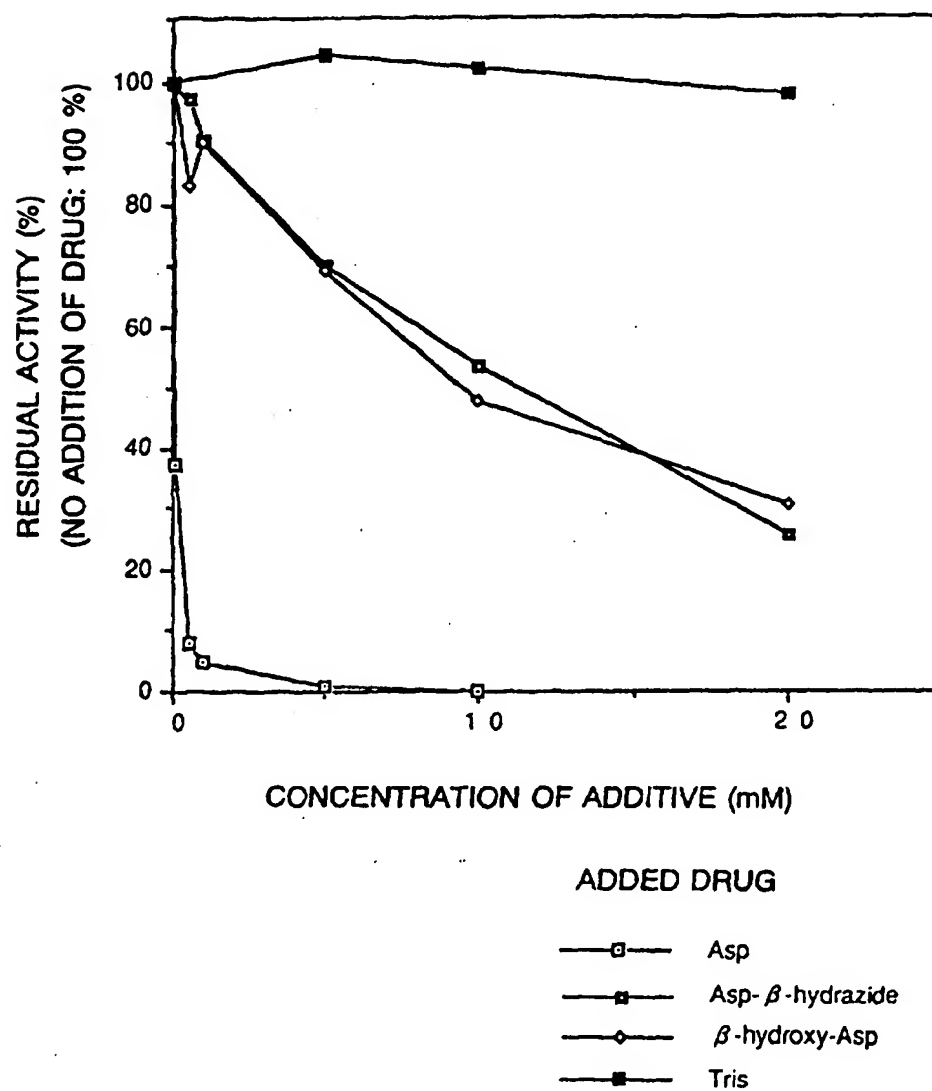


Fig. 8

Asp- β -hydrazide

INHIBITION OF MUTANT TYPE PEPC BY Asp
(AcCoA: 0.1 mM)

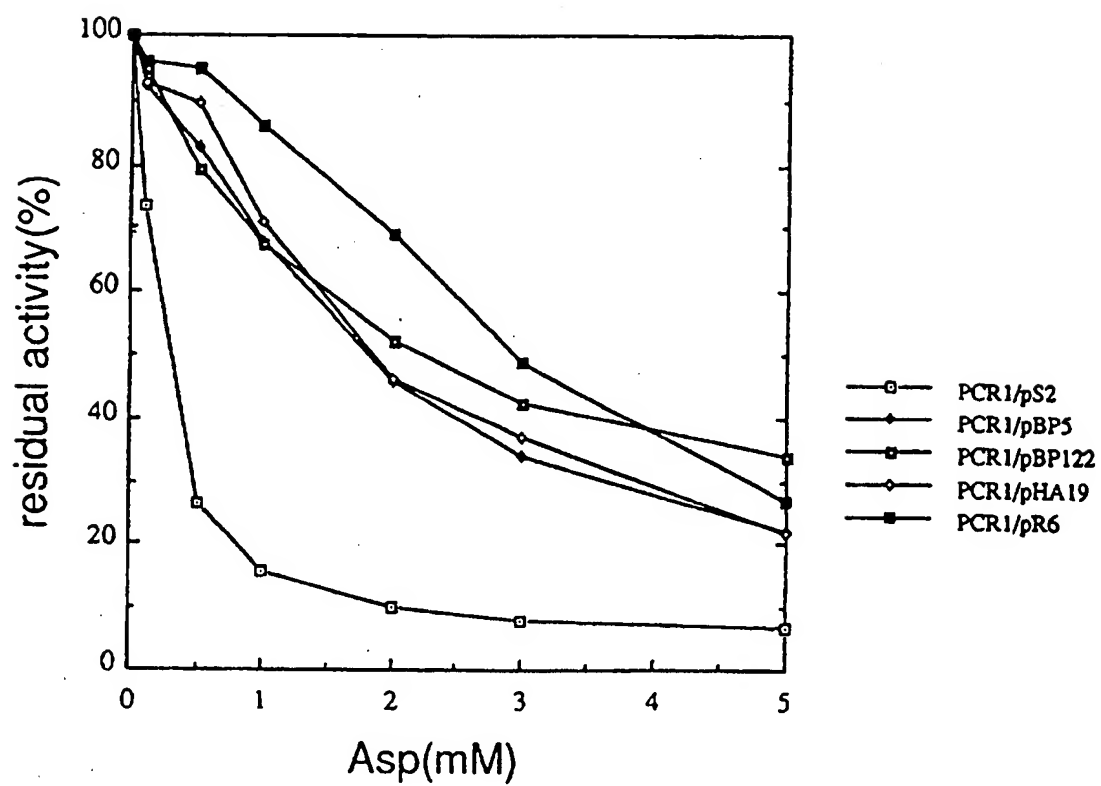


Fig. 9

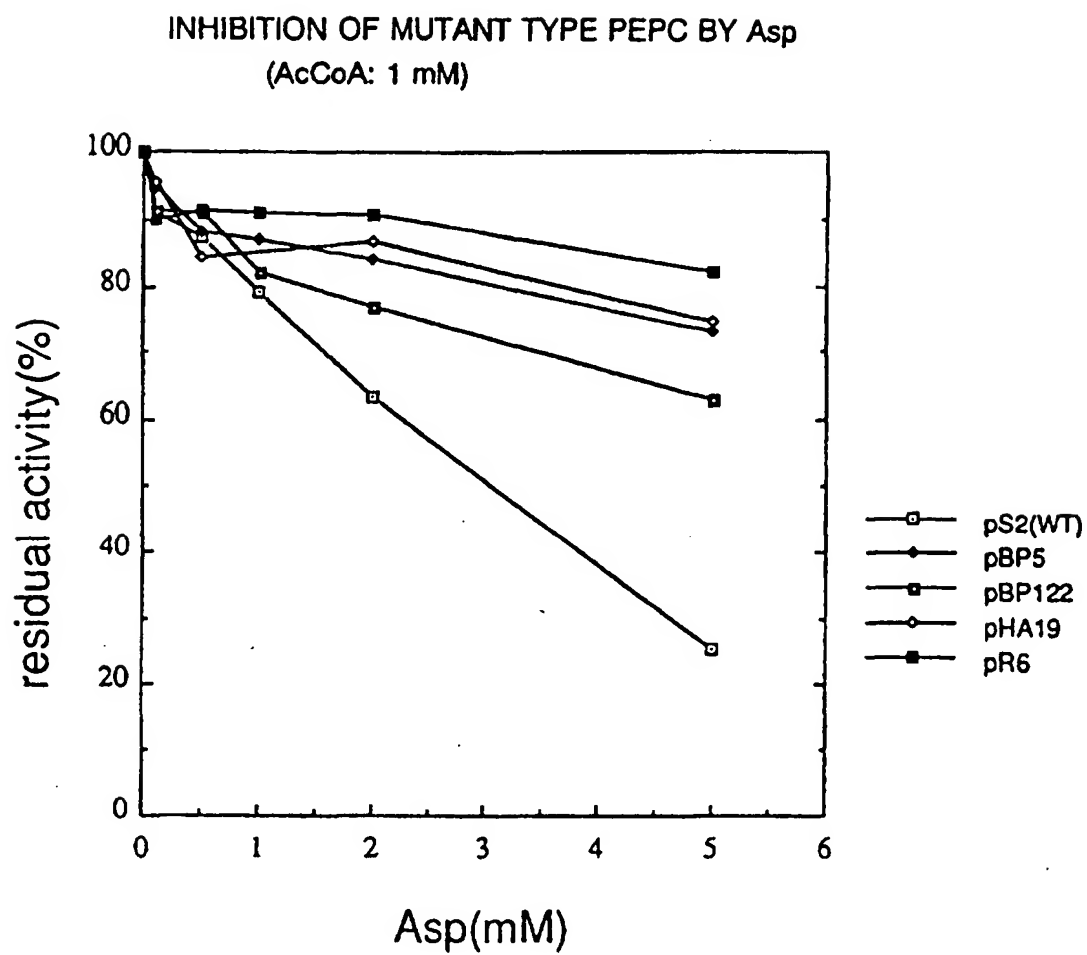


Fig. 10